





# Watchdog MPs demand end of VAT on arts

By Christopher Warman, Arts Correspondent

An all-party committee of MPs yesterday called for the abolition of value-added tax on all cultural events by 1985. In the meantime there should be an immediate cut in VAT for arts organizations by five points below the standard rate, the Commons Education, Science and Arts Committee said.

At present rates that would mean a reduction from 15 per cent to 10 per cent.

In an interim report, the committee said their recommendation to abolish VAT was in accordance with a Council of Europe directive of 1977, which said the provision of all cultural services which were in the public interest, theatre, concerts and other cultural events should be exempt by 1985.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Mr Charles Phipps, said it was quite clear that there was a widespread feeling among arts organizations that the VAT was discouraging and damaging to the arts. The tax raised tickets beyond the threshold of price resistance for many people and deprived sections of the public from regular access to the performing arts.

"In that VAT applies irrespective of profit or loss, the tax bears heavily on the live performing arts particularly in Europe and other public spending. However he admitted that London ratepayers would probably be reluctant if their burden was increased from £9m to £50m.

Mr Banks said that such spending on the arts was a perfectly proper way of spending money. With a lot of using money and with considerable deprivation in London it was justifiable on social, political and artistic grounds.

"The GLC has given a dramatic boost to arts funding. It was not easy to get such an increase. We have done our part and I would like to see central government do a lot more," he said.

Referring to the role of private funding for the arts, Mr Banks said the council would not turn down money. He objected to private companies creaming off the most prestigious arts to subsidize and taking the benefits from them.

The arts lobby was weak and therefore did not get sufficient funds, within the lobby there was a disproportionate favouring of opera and ballet, he said.

Mr Banks said the GLC would announce soon the allocation of £300,000 in the annual budget to be devoted entirely to the encouragement of ethnic minorities in London.

He defended the GLC's decision to increase arts spending for the coming year by 34 per cent and said that in an ideal world it would be higher. An earlier report recommended the spending of £6m on the arts, which today would mean £50m instead of the £9m to be spent by the GLC.

Mr Banks described the level of public spending on the arts as abysmal, compared both with spending on the arts in other countries, where trading deficits are common and often quite unavoidable.

Britain appeared to be out of line with the EEC in the consistent rigour with which it applied VAT to the arts. Only two other countries, Denmark and The Netherlands, levied VAT on cultural services at the standard rate, and even they exercised a measure of discretion.

At a public hearing of the committee last night, Mr Tony Banks, chairman of the Greater London Council arts and recreation committee, repeated his view that the national centres of the arts in London, including the National Theatre and the English National Opera, should be funded wholly by the Government.

"I do not consider it a function of a local authority to fund national centres," he said.

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## Arbitration for market forces offer

By David Felton  
Labour Reporter

The Government's controversial "market forces" pay offer to 520,000 white-collar civil servants, which proposes awards ranging from nothing to 5.5 per cent, is to go to arbitration next month.

It will follow the arbitration hearing of the flexible rostering dispute on the railways which is due to start next Monday at the Railway Staff National Tribunal, chaired by Lord MacGillivray.

British Rail and the three unions in the industry will present evidence to the tribunal, which will make the final ruling on rostering for 20,000 train drivers that was at the centre of the recent six-week campaign of strikes by the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (ASLEF).

The National Union of Railmen, which has already accepted flexible rostering for the 12,000 guards who are members of the union, will argue at the tribunal that the terms for footplate men should be exactly the same as for guards.

ASLEF representatives are expected to put forward to the tribunal proposals for flexibility around the guaranteed eight-hour day which the union leadership has emphasized, it is not prepared to give up.

The Civil Service arbitration will probably be heard by the middle of next month on disagreed terms of reference, after the failure of Treasury and union negotiators to decide on a formula.

Leaders of the nine Civil Service unions rejected the Government's pay offer out of hand and opted immediately for arbitration. The findings will be binding, with the proviso that the Government will retain the option of going to Parliament to ask for the findings to be overturned if it felt they were not on the national interest.

The Civil Service Arbitration Tribunal, headed by Mr David Calcutt, QC, will hear evidence on the unions' 13 per cent claim and the administration's offer, which gives staff no increase at all.

## Picket line relaxed at hospital

By David Hewson

Striking porters and canteen staff relaxed their picket line at St Bartholomew's Hospital in Smithfield, London, yesterday after complaints that their action was endangering patients.

Mr Anthony Mowan, the hospital administrator, said that over the weekend a cancer patient and a pregnant woman needing specialist treatment were affected by the dispute. An ambulance carrying the cancer patient was delayed for 20 minutes, he said.

Mr Mowan said, although the canteen facilities for hospital staff were badly affected.

The dispute centres on 28 shift porters who make up a 24-hour pool for all hospital departments. Its establishment is 32 men, but the management has wiped out the four vacancies and last Monday introduced a new roster.

The new working hours affect porters in different ways, but Mr Mowan accepts, to some extent, the union's contention that for some of them the new roster means that they will need to work more unsocial hours.

Mr Mowan said yesterday that he would not talk to the union until the 25 striking porters and 75 canteen staff had returned to work. He said the dispute was having little effect on the hospital.

The union claims nearly total support from the hospital's 100 catering staff. The porters went on strike on Thursday and were joined by catering staff yesterday.

Catering workers who did not strike were able to feed patients, Mr Mowan said, although the canteen facilities for hospital staff were badly affected.

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## Protection of benefits 'will harm low-paid'

By Pat Healy, Social Services correspondent

Changes in the way the Government proposes to protect supplementary benefit against inflation will lead to an average family with two children losing the equivalent of a week's wages in three years' time. That is claimed today by the Shelter Housing Advisory Centre (Shac), hours before the Budget is expected to confirm the new method.

Because of technical changes being introduced in the Government's unified housing benefit scheme next year, pensioners will be no worse off, Shac says. But low income families will suffer losses that will amount to half a week's wages in three years' time for a two-child family with a gross income now of £70 a week.

The figures are the first attempt to assess the impact of the Government proposal to exclude housing costs from the retail price index for the purpose of the annual review of supplementary benefit rates. That proposal is also criticized today by the National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux (Nacab) which calculates that at least 10 million people will be adversely affected.

Nacab points out that five million people depend on supplementary benefit, another 3,500,000 receive rent and rate rebates, and other low income families would lose eligibility for benefits based on supplementary benefit allowances.

The actual losses in terms of lowered housing assistance are estimated by Shac to amount to £54 in the first year for a family with one adult earning the average wage of £120 a week, supporting two children and paying a rent of £15 a week. In the third year of the new system, that family would be £100 a year worse off.

Mr McNally indicated, nevertheless, that the Alliance would wish to support the Robbins principle that places in higher education should be available to all those qualified and wishing to take them.

Mr McNally criticized the Government's decision to cut the universities' grant and increase fees for overseas students.

"A policy aimed at economy has already cost the Government £200m for voluntary redundancies," he said, referring to the estimated cost of redundancies in university staffs, which the Government has made no commitment to pay.

He continued: "Sir Keith's determination to press ahead with restructuring (the universities) with little or no understanding of the impact of his policies combines pig-headedness with myopia. Conditions thought hitherto to be found only in No 10 Downing Street."

The Government's policy on overseas students had sent British institutes of higher education "pimping-round the world in pursuit of the privileged, the rich, but essentially second rate."

But Mr McNally gave no promise that a future SDP or Alliance government would seek to reverse present policies.

He simply said that an Alliance government would wish to find all sectors of education with well-thought-out, non-sectional ideas of how best to repair the damage done to the system and give it a long term perspective to the end of the century.

"Whether this would best be done by direct dialogue between the incoming Secretary of State and the various interest groups, or by asking someone to produce a rapid 'one-man-Robbins' to form the basis of public debate and ministerial action, I am open to persuasion."

## DEATH PARENTS ARE JAILED

A couple were jailed for manslaughter yesterday after the deaths of their twin daughters, aged three weeks, during an argument.

Their father, Thomas Pearce, aged 38, and the mother, Christina Theresa Sainsbury, aged 24, was sentenced to 18 months.

Pearce had told Leeds Crown Court that one twin started crying when he tried to get her away from her mother and put her in her cot. He tried to grab the other baby, Sainsbury said, and this happened about two or three times. Both babies suffered brain damage.

Mr Justice Michael Davies told the parents: "You brought these little babies into the world, and you were responsible for them going out of it three weeks after they were born. It is a crime which is appalling in the true sense of the word. At the same time there are features in which excite compassion. The tragedy is I think you both loved them and did care for them during their short lives."

Pearce, unemployed, of Limerick Close, Hull, and Sainsbury, of Feldene, Hull, separated after the deaths.

## FELL FROM EIGHTH FLOOR



## Lift plunge kills three workmen

Three workmen were killed yesterday when a lift they were dismantling from the side of this block of flats fell eight storeys to the pavement. Their foreman tried to save their lives by wedging a forklift truck under the lift cage to take the weight off the men. The accident happened at the West Kensington housing estate, North End Road, Fulham, West London, where flats are being renovated. One worker, Mr

Thomas Concannon said the lift appeared to go off its runners at the top of the building. "We all tried to help them, but they were hurt so badly they did not stand a chance," he said. The dead men were named as Mr Paul Creath, aged 38, of West Croft Way, Cricklewood, Mr James O'Neill, aged 51, of Fifth Avenue, Queen's Park, and Mr William Frewer, aged 53, of Northchurch Road, Wembley.

## Alliance role outlined on education

By Ogr Education Correspondent

Higher education is unlikely to return to its pre-crisis position under a future SDP Liberal Alliance government, Mr Tom McNally, Social Democrat MP for Stockport, South, indicated yesterday.

Delivering the Foundation oration at University College, London, Mr McNally said: "The emphasis that any Alliance government is likely to give to the training and educational provisions of the 16-19 age group means that higher education can expect neither blank cheques nor a return to the status quo."

Mr McNally indicated, nevertheless, that the Alliance would wish to support the Robbins principle that places in higher education should be available to all those qualified and wishing to take them.

Mr McNally criticized the Government's decision to cut the universities' grant and increase fees for overseas students.

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## Lobby system examined Yes, or then again no, Minister

By John Witherow

The programme maintained that Mrs Thatcher's Cabinet was the "leakiest" Conservative one of modern times. It identified the "deep throat" of Mrs Thatcher's government as Bernard Ingham, a former Labour councillor and now her press secretary who regulates the official flow of information. In the event of a build up to a nuclear war, Mr Ingham would take on the formidable powers of Director General of the BBC, of ITV, head of local radio, the editors of Fleet Street newspapers and editor in chief of the Press Association.

Information affecting the lives of millions of people has been kept secret from the public, Panorama argued. Ministers can refuse to answer questions on more than 100 subjects in the Commons and were capable of rigging question time using plant back-benchers to ask prearranged questions designed to show the minister in the best light.

Lord Croham, who as Sir

Douglas Allen was head of the Home Civil Service, to Panorama that Britain probably possessed the most secretive system in the Western world.

Peter Heffnessy, a former journalist with The Times who recently identified Government telephone tapping of opponents as far back as 1946, described the lobby system as "the real cancer of British journalism" where independence was traded for a supply of information.

One of the more amusing reflections on the Government's control of information and influence of the public came from Sir Angus Maude, until last September Paymaster General and co-ordinator of Government information. He had produced a list of phrases for use by ministers in speeches and writings which included such statements as "what we're paid depends on what we produce" and there is "no such thing as a good day's pay for a bad day's work".

## Secret note to jury clears man on appeal

Three judges in the Court of Appeal yesterday cleared a man of a murder conviction against a black Londoner, Mr Newton Rose.

Mr Rose, aged 21, a decorator, of Olinda Road, Stoke Newington, north London, was sentenced to life imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court last December for the murder of Mr Tony Donnelly, a National Front supporter. He was found guilty by a majority verdict of 10 to two. Three of his friends, Mr Ian Henry, aged 21, manager, of Meridian Walk, Tottenham; Mr Orville Alexander Johnson, aged 21, unemployed, of Reighton Road, Clapton; Mr Michael Carson, aged 20, unemployed, of Scarborough Road, Leytonstone, were convicted of attempting to pervert the course of justice and sentenced to six months. Their convictions were also quashed.

Mr Rose will remain in custody until this morning in case the Crown seeks leave to appeal to the House of Lords. The other three were released on bail.

The main ground for the appeal was that at the trial Judge Clarke had acted wrongly in secretly giving the jury a deadline after taking seven hours to reach a verdict.

Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, sitting with Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Stephen Brown, said the judge's action was "a grave material irregularity, which we deplore".

The appeal judges were told that Judge Clarke's deadline message was passed to the jury at 5.45pm via Mr Philip Spencer, the court clerk. It said if they did not reach a decision in the next 20 minutes they would be discharged.

Five minutes after the deadline elapsed they announced that they had originally miscounted the votes, and returned the majority verdicts.

Lord Lane said the judge had acted wrongly in giving instructions to the jury without making it known publicly.

A few days later, Lord Lane, said Judge Clark wrote to the lawyers involved telling them of his action.

## Science report

## Universe may end in a whimper

By the Staff of "Nature"

The Universe, now commonly thought to have begun with a big bang, will end in a whimper as a sea of material particles no more exciting than electrons. Moreover, so far apart are they, that they are unlikely even to collide with one another. However, that end-point is a long way off, probably lifetimes.

That is what might be called the orthodox conclusion of a study of the cosmological consequences of the recognition in the past few years that the particles of nuclear matter called protons may not, against previous expectations, be indefinitely stable.

The study has been carried out by Duane A. Dicus and John R. Letaw, of the University of Texas, and Doris C. Teplitz, of Maryland University, and Vigdor L. Teplitz, of surprisingly the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The possibility that protons, the electrically charged particles that are the nuclei of hydrogen atoms, may not after all be stable has been suggested by new theories of how different kinds of material particles are related to one another.

Although it has from the outset been appreciated that the cosmological implications of such an instability would be profound, they have not so far been calculated in detail.

It is also clear that such instability of protons must for practical purposes be negligible. Experiments have shown that the time of the proton cannot be on average less than a million million million years. At least three experiments (two in the United States and one in India) are being undertaken in the hope of extending that limit a thousand times.

For cosmologists the obvious implications of proton instability are that all particles of nuclear matter will eventually turn into less substantial particles, ultimately electrons. The calculations now described are the first to show how and when that should be accomplished.

One of the complications that have to be considered is the way energy released by the conversion of protons (and other particles of nuclear matter) would help to supply stars with a modest amount of energy even when their thermonuclear fuel was exhausted.

The conclusion is that in such a Universe the end point at which all matter had been converted into electrons lies at least 10,000 times further off than the average lifetime of the proton. Given the expansion of the Universe between now and then, the electrons of which it will ultimately be made will be so widely separated that they will have a negligible influence on one another.

The authors of the research cannot, however, be dogmatic about the conclusion because of the doubt they share with all other cosmologists about the future expansion of the Universe. There is no way of telling from observations whether the expansion will continue indefinitely or alternatively, eventually be halted by the gravitational attraction of one part for another.

The second possibility has ironically been given a new lease of life by development in the theory of the particles of matter linked with the prediction that protons may be unstable, the possibility that the particles of matter called neutrinos, hitherto supposed to be massless, may have sufficient mass to hold the Universe together.

If that were the case the result would be that the Universe would oscillate, with one phase of expansion being followed by an equivalent period of contraction.

It does emerge, however, that if protons are unstable the alternating phases of expansion and contraction of such a Universe would not be symmetrical, and that at each successive expansion phase the maximum radius of the Universe would increase.

Source: *Astronomical Journal*, January 1, 1982 (Vol 252, p1).

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## Slip delays trains

A Landslip near Cliftonham, Wiltshire delayed trains between London, Bath and Bristol.

Overseas selling prices: 1 lb. 5s 2d, 2 lb. 10s 2d, 3 lb. 15s 2d, 4 lb. 20s 2d, 5 lb. 25s 2d, 6 lb. 30s 2d, 7 lb. 35s 2d, 8 lb. 40s 2d, 9 lb. 45s 2d, 10 lb. 50s 2d, 11 lb. 55s 2d, 12 lb. 60s 2d, 13 lb. 65s 2d, 14 lb. 70s 2d, 15 lb. 75s 2d, 16 lb. 80s 2d, 17 lb. 85s 2d, 18 lb. 90s 2d, 19 lb. 95s 2d, 20 lb. 100s 2d.

## NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS

The National Savings Bank announces that with effect from 1st April 1982 the interest rate payable on Investment Account deposits will be 13½% per annum.

WILLIAMS



## £35,000 'golden handshake' for Joe Gormley

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Mr Joe Gormley, the retiring moderate president of the National Union of Mineworkers, who is at the centre of a continuing political controversy, is to receive a "golden handshake" of about £35,000.

The payment is an ex-gratia lump sum made up of three times his annual pension, and it is being recommended to the NUM national executive by the union's powerful finance committee. The £25,000-a-year president, aged 65, will receive the cash tax-free.

That payment, unprecedented in size in the labour movement, is only part of a generous retirement package that is almost certain to be approved by miners' leaders when Mr Gormley bids farewell at his final executive meeting in Workington in two days' time. The union leader, known affectionately as "Battered Cherub", will be given the Jaguar in which he has been chauffeured round for the last few years.

He will also be allowed to stay in his NUM-owned luxury home in Sudbury-on-Thames for the rest of his life at a peppercorn rent. The house, complete with swimming pool, will then revert to the union.

There could be a move by discontented left-wingers to block the hand-wringing retirement package at Thursday's executive meeting. Mr Jack Collins, Kent area secretary of the NUM, had protested by letter and Mr Joe Whelan, secretary of the Nottinghamshire area, last night described the golden handshake as "a bloody insult to the miners".

Left-wingers are still furious with Mr Gormley over an article he wrote for the *Daily Express* on the eve of a pithead ballot two months ago, in which he advised miners to ignore the unanimous recommendation of their national executive and accept a 9.5 per cent pay offer rather than go on strike.

The NUM president survived subsequent censure moves demanding his resignation by a single vote as the dominant moderate majority on his executive closed ranks in his support, but the issue is still live. Since that vote, 17-15 to raise the resignation demand again, though Mr Lawrence Day, the union's general secretary has told the

area's leaders that the matter has been dealt with.

However, any move against the golden handshake is unlikely to succeed not only because Mr Gormley can muster an executive majority, but because all the union's other full-time officials stand to gain by the same cash arrangements when they retire.

That is because the £35,000 payout to the president is based on a formula enshrined in the coalminers' own pension scheme. When they retire, they receive a tax-free, ex-gratia payment of 156 weeks' pension, and this principle has for some years been operated without publicity in the NUM on the basis that "what's good for the men is good for the officials".

NUM officials' pensions are based on reckonable years of service to the union, and in Mr Gormley's case it is authoritatively estimated that he is entitled to a pension of some 46 per cent of his existing salary of about £25,000 a year. That would be approximately £12,000 giving an estimated handshake of £35,000. The actual sum is not specified in the finance committee minutes.

The finance committee decision was taken in private last week at a meeting attended by Mr Gormley, the vice-president, his long-time political opponent — Mr Michael McGahey, Communist president of the Scottish miners; Mr George Rees, secretary of the Welsh miners, also a Communist; Mr Trevor Bell, the white-collar section leader and Mr Jack Jones, president of the Leicestershire coalfield, both moderates.

Mr Gormley is due to retire on April 4, and his militant successor, Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire area, takes over the following day. Mr Scargill and the other two Yorkshire executive members, Mr Owen Briscoe and Mr John Weaver, have been instructed by their area council not to attend any farewell function to pay tribute to the outgoing president.

They, and perhaps others, are therefore expected to boycott an executive dinner being held in Mr Gormley's honour in a Workington hotel on Wednesday.

## Police chief welcomes security firms' aid

From John Chartres

Britain's police service can no longer "go it alone" in the fight against increasing crime, Mr James Anderton, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, said yesterday.

Mr Anderton, who had formally opened what is claimed to be the first "fully automated central station" operated by a commercial security company, said the task of crime prevention was now beyond ordinary police resources.

Displaying a very different attitude towards commercial security companies from that exhibited by many chief constables in recent years, Mr Anderton said: "My officers and I need all the help we can get from the ordinary citizen who shows he cares, and from security companies with such an enormous part to play."

"In much the same way the owners of houses and business premises of every kind recognize only too well just how vulnerable they are, and how limited is the physical protection patrolling police officers can give them, so they need to build their own defences."

"There was a time when the regular police imagined they could cope with all crime and anti-social behaviour and rather resented the growth of security organizations," he went on.

"But not any more. We are at war against crime and the police 'infantry' welcome every technical support which adds to the weight of their armour."

Referring to the 48 per cent increase in crime in his area in the past seven years, Mr Anderton said: "The trouble today is that there are not enough cavalry in the form of uniformed police officers to come to the rescue when the trumpet call goes out."

Mr Anderton was speaking at the opening of the new and computerized central station to be operated in Manchester by ADT Security Systems, a multinational company which has 200,000 clients in the United States, Europe and the Middle East, including 10,000 in the United Kingdom.

The Manchester centre serves clients in the North-west of England and the Midlands, and the facilities will include another automated system in London next year, so that clients throughout the mainland will be linked to it.



## A Pankhurst's museum appeal

Miss Helen Pankhurst, at 17, grand-daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst, launching a national appeal for £500,000 to establish a museum and women's centre at 60 and 62 Nelson Street, Manchester, the birthplace of the suffragette movement. Nelson Street was Emmeline Pankhurst's home, and in 1903 she founded the Women's Social and Political Union from there. Today the houses, which are Grade II listed buildings and two of Manchester's few remaining Georgian

buildings, are boarded up and empty. Helen Pankhurst, a student at the Atlantic College in Wales, is the grand-daughter of Emmeline Pankhurst's daughter Sylvia. Helping her to launch the appeal was Lord Brockway, aged 94, and one of the few people still living to have met Mrs Pankhurst.

"When I first knew her she was rather subordinate to her husband, Richard, and then quite suddenly she emerged as a tremendously extrovert, dynamic person herself," he said.

## Power failure 'lessons learnt'

Emergency procedures for power failures need improving in the South-west of England, according to a report issued yesterday by the South Western Electricity Board. The board has accepted recommendations made by an internal panel which investigated 6,000 faults in the region caused by a freak blizzard in December.

From our correspondent Bristol

Several thousand homes were left without power for up to a week, which led to complaints from local MPs. Most faults were caused by the weight of ice and snow on overhead lines or by high winds bringing down the lines.

The report said that communications between consumers and boards

switchboards were poor and only two-thirds of callers could get through. The board now plans to set up 13 emergency units in the region to help compile information from consumers.

Staff will be given extra training so that more of them can be assigned to emergency repair work on overhead cables.

## Immigrant families separated by red tape

By Lucy Hodges

Research by the government-funded immigrants' advisory service shows that many wives and children of British immigrants are wrongly being turned away because of discrepancies in their applications.

The research, presented to a House of Commons select committee yesterday, examined 45 Bangladeshi cases of dependants of people settled here being refused entry. The researchers felt that 31 of the cases were genuine and 11 were mostly so. They thought only three were not genuine.

Mr John Ennals, director of the United Kingdom Immigrants' Advisory Service, told the subcommittee examining immigration from the Indian sub-continent that he hoped many of the refusals could be reversed. So far three had been reversed, and he was hopeful for another family being interviewed by the British High Commission in Dacca.

One of the three cases concerned Mrs Muhibun Nessa, who wanted to bring her four children to join her husband here. She was rejected because the authorities were not convinced the family was related to Mr Nessa.

The researchers, Mr Zahurul Chowdhury and Mr Ken Brown, visited their home in Bangladesh, questioned the family and found that everything they said tallied with their application. Moreover they found British-bought gifts which could not have been bought locally. Photographs and a marriage certificate on the wall further convinced them.

The new evidence was put to an immigration appeal tribunal and the family was allowed in. The other two families were admitted after fresh applications had been made to the entry clearance officers.

The research was carried out last year on a grant from the Commission for Racial Equality. Mr Ennals agreed that the methods used by immigration officers at the high commission in Dacca had got better, but there was still room for improvement.

He recommended that interviews with applicants should be recorded and said that adjudicators who heard appeals in this country against refusals of entry abroad, should visit the Indian sub-continent.

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Radio calls for Carol Thatcher

Miss Carol Thatcher, the Prime Minister's daughter, yesterday started a new job as presenter of a radio phone-in programme for the London Broadcasting Company.

Yesterday she joined a daily phone-in show, broadcast from the Ideal Homes Exhibition and will take over the 10 pm to 1 am Saturday night programme, *Night Line*.

After her appointment, Miss Thatcher, aged 28, had said that she would not be drawn into arguments about her mother.

Yesterday she started by dealing with a caller complaining about the use of background music on television nature programmes. Other topics discussed were the London Transport strike due tomorrow and the selection of Mr Pat Wall as Labour candidate for Bradford North.

### School prayers for fire victims

The two teenagers who died in a fire at a disco party in a former stable loft in Tower Street, Rye, East Sussex, on Saturday night were named yesterday as Nigel Baker, aged 13, of Rigg Road, Rye, and Sarah Higgins, aged 14, of Fyrsay, Fairlight, near Rye.

A third pupil at Thomas Peacock School, Rye, Matthews Van Ast, aged 14, is receiving treatment for severe burns. Prayers were said for the three at school assembly yesterday.

### Police reinstated

Five Humberdale drug squad policemen who were acquitted by a Crown Court jury at York last weekend of drugs offences were reinstated today by Mr David Hall, the Chief Constable. They had been suspended for more than two years.

### Free fall victim named

A skydiver who was killed when his parachute failed to open after jumping from an aircraft at 10,000 ft on Sunday with the Spread-eagles free fall parachute club on Sunday was named yesterday as Mr Michael Moreau, aged 34, of Charlton Road, Shepton, Middlesex, who was married with two children.

# ON MARCH 25th THE 'EXECUTIVE CAR OF THE YEAR' FOR 1980 AND 1981 WILL ALSO BECOME AN ESTATE...



## WITH THE LARGEST LOADSPACE IN BRITAIN AND THE BEST FUEL FIGURES IN ITS CLASS. THE NEW PEUGEOT 505 ESTATE.

PEUGEOT 505  
TAKE PRIDE IN PRECISION







**From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 8**

According to West German officials, Herr Genscher will urge President Reagan to visit West Berlin while he is in Germany. He will point out that previous American presidents who have visited Berlin have been given a warm day visit at a time when relations between Turkey and Greece, which together form Nato's south-eastern flank, are once more on the verge of breaking point over the Cyprus and Aegean dispute (Risit Gurdilek writes).

**From David Blow**  
**Vienna: March 8**

The reasons for the visit are not clear. Austria is involved in some important construction projects in Libya and while he is here, Colonel Gaddafi will visit Voest-Alpine, the Austrian state steel concern, in Linz which now has contracts with Libya worth 13,000m schillings (£450m).

However, an important though economic cooperation between Austria and Libya may be, it seems likely that Colonel Gaddafi's surprise visit has a wider purpose. This could be to improve his relations with Western Europe at a time when Libya is having to grapple with plunging oil prices.

Libya's tower is not being dismantled, but it is undergoing a drastic facelift and slimming cure. They will use 1,000 tons of exotic metal accretions with which it has become weighed down over the past 35 years. More slender, more modern and elegant tower, fitted with electric lifts instead of old hydraulic ones, and middle age spread removed will take on a new lease of life in 1983.

M Kardas bought 6½ tons off surplus iron scrap between four and six years long for 60 centimes a kg from the scrap metal dealer commissioned to remove

**From Our Correspondent  
Bonn, March 8**

The local government elections in the West German state of Schleswig-Holstein on Sunday provided chilling confirmation for Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Federal Chancellor, of the poor standing of his Social Democratic Party.


The SPD's share of the poll fell by 5.9 per cent to 34.6 per cent, while the Christian Democrats' vote went up by 0.9 per cent to 50.1 per cent. The Free Democrats, junior partners in the Bonn coalition, polled 6.8 per cent of the vote, compared with 7.3 per cent in 1978, and ecologist and alternative candidates won seats on many councils by polling on average more than 5 per cent, compared with less than 3 per cent last time.

**From Our Own Correspondent**  
**Paris, March 8**

M. Kardas bought 6 1/2 tons of surplus iron joists between four and six metres long for 60 centimes a kilo from the scrap metal dealer commissioned to remove them.

Verona, March 8.—Sixteen

Cesare di Lenardo, aged 23, one of five people arrested when police freed General Dozier from Red Brigades "people's prison" in Padua on January 28, shouted from his cage in the court here that he had been tortured and showed reporters a bruise on his hand.

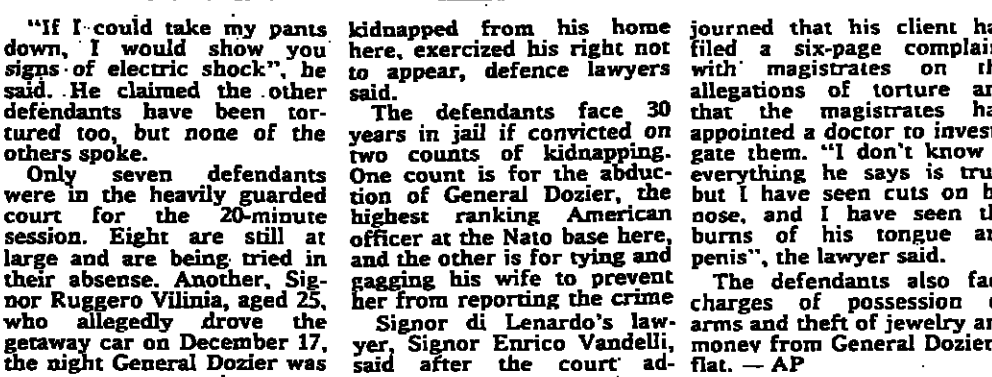


**From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March, 8**

What he wants to put an end to is the unwritten rule that the Paris Prefecture was the exclusive preserve of those police officers who made their whole career there. A provincial police commissioner, however competent and deserving, could never hope to enter the circle.

For a Minister who has made decentralization his hobby horse, such privileges are intolerable. Nor could he take a gander view of a senior police official, however brilliant and respected, who regarded promotion to Mar seilles as the "sanction".

There is little chance that M Defferre will do so. As Minister of the Interior he was, he declared in Marseilles today, "the defender of the hierarchy". Everyone must obey him, he said. M Leclerc would be appointed to a post in the Paris region which M Defferre would choose for him, but not the least of the Director of the Paris criminal police to which he felt entitled and where M Le Moel wanted him.



# This is the age of the train ➡









# General tells coup trial of other military plots

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 8

Lieutenant-General Jaime Milans del Bosch today told the court martial examining last year's attempted coup that colonels were conspiring to overthrow the constitution before the seizure of Parliament on February 23 last year.

Giving his own testimony for the first time, the former commander of the Valencia region said that other coup attempts were being planned at the same time and he referred to a meeting in Madrid a month before the February coup. He had been there with Colonel Antonio Tejero and the other groups were also represented at the meeting. They were all military men, representing what he called "the solution of the colonels".

When General José Claver Tejero, the chief military prosecutor, seized on this information, demanding the names of those in the present, the accused replied to laughter from the benches, where members of the families of those on trial sit: "I will never tell".

General Milans had earlier refused to identify two mysterious figures said by Colonel Tejero to have been present at the January meeting which he said was intended to establish contact with three or four radical groups. The general said that these groups included, not only colonels, but also mem-

bers of Spain's paramilitary Civil Guard.

"It seemed to me fundamental to stop those more radical groups for there was another solution that could be achieved with the King's support", General Milans told the court.

As the most senior general, he was called for cross-examination first today, after an attempt by the prosecution to detail Colonel Tejero had failed. The court debated this issue for an hour before deciding that military rank must take precedence.

General Milans described the other groups variously as "aggressive" and "active" and "nervous", wanting a solution to an allegedly troubled situation in the country during the last months of the Suarez Government.

The problems included terrorism and security and the creation of autonomy for the regions.

There were rumours of what was afoot in military circles, the 66-year-old general said, giving his testimony in a relaxed manner. This put in a poor light the failure of politicians such as Señor Agustín Rodríguez, Defence Minister at the time, to have taken precautionary steps against such subversion.

General Milans maintained that it was against these more violent groups that he and General Alfonso Armada,

# MEP says horrifying seal cull must stop

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Paul Howell, Conservative Member of the European Parliament for Norfolk, who flew back from Canada yesterday after watching the annual seal cull, condemned it as "horrifying and bloody slaughter" and said he is calling for it to be ended.

He will fly to Strasbourg today in an attempt to convince the European Parliament that the import of seal pelts should be banned in Europe. The Parliament votes on the issue on Thursday. Since more than 90 per cent of the pelts are sold to Europe a vote against their import would kill the trade.

Mr Howell, who was a guest of the Canadian Government and the International Fund for Animal Welfare, was the only MEP to see the killings.

He said: "Clubbing is probably as humane as any way, but with slaughter there is going to be cruelty and we know of a number of instances when seals have been skinned alive."

"Official Canadian Government reports indicate skinning alive does occur. I think it is disturbing. I feel a sense of outrage."

"The killing takes place in seal nurseries in full view of the parents. You see the animal clubbed, dragged along on a spike with blood pouring out and the mother will be following behind often trying to grab the tail."



# Honour for Zamyatin

Mr Leonid Zamyatin, President Brezhnev's press spokesman and the influential head of the Communist Party's International Information department who has been awarded the Order of Lenin, the highest Soviet decoration, for the second time to mark his sixtieth birthday (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

Mr Zamyatin, an unbending hardliner, has taken an aggressive stand in defending Soviet policy overseas and has spearheaded the tough new anti-western, and especially anti-American, policy of the Soviet Union.

He is closely identified with Soviet policy towards West Germany, and accompanied President Brezhnev to Bonn in November.

His sharp rebukes there for Her Jurt Becker, the German spokesman, and his rough handling of the press, however, contradicted the official portrayal of frank and friendly negotiations.

# The right to read

# New maths may not escape the prim parents' axe

From Nicolas Ashford, Washington, March 8

In the town of French Lick in Indiana *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller has been banned from a high school English class because it contains obscenities. In Oaia, South Dakota, Aldous Huxley's *Brave New World* and J. D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye* have been banned from the local school library.

According to the American Library Association there have been attempts to remove, restrict or deny access to more than 150 books in 34 different states during the past few months. The books range from science fiction like *The Kinsman* by Ben Bova to best-sellers like Peter Benchley's *Jaws*.

The United States with its strong tradition of free speech and deep respect for individual liberty, is not a country normally associated with book-banning. But parents' groups across the country, emboldened by what they see as a spreading mood of conservatism under the Reagan Administration, are demanding that teachers and administrators cleanse their schools of materials and teaching methods they consider anti-family, anti-American and anti-God.

Supported by neo-conservative groups, such as the Moral Majority, the John Birch Society and the Christian Broadcasting Network, these parents are getting together to redempt books from libraries, replace textbooks, eliminate sex education courses, and balance lessons about evolution with those of biblical creation.

They are even seeking to revise such concepts as open classrooms and new maths, arguing that such unstructured academic approaches undermine standards of right and wrong and promote rebellion, sexual promiscuity and crime.

The issue of book-banning came before the Supreme Court last week. It considered a case which began in September, 1975, when members of a school board in Long Island banned nine books from class courses and library shelves, including *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut, *The Fixer* by Bernard Malamud, *The Naked Ape* by Desmond Morris and *Laughing Boy* by Eldridge Cleaver.

The court was asked to decide whether the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech protects a student's "right to read". In particular, the court has to decide how much authority school boards have to determine what books students will be allowed to read in school libraries.

The Long Island school case has become something of a cause célèbre with both conservative and liberal groups and is seen as a test case for scores of similar incidents of book-banning. More than 20 civil liberty, labour and educational groups have filed suits opposing such forms of censorship.

Appearing before the Supreme Court last week, Mr George Lipp, the school board lawyer, said school authorities were promoting a certain set of political, moral and social values when they banned the books. That was one of their duties, he maintained. "It was the mission of the nation's 16,000 school districts and should not be subject to the intervention of the United States judiciary."

Mr Alan Levine, representing four students who are suing for the return of the books, agreed that school boards "must transmit values... but they may not ignore their obligation to respect diversity of values". There was no constitutional basis for banning books simply because they gave offence, he argued.

"I believe the right to read a book is clearly inherent in any interpretation of the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech," he added.

The court is not expected to decide whether it accepts Mr Levine's interpretation of the First Amendment until later this year.

# Strasbourg selects PR for Britain

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 8

A proportional voting system for the next direct elections to the European Parliament is due to be chosen by members of the present House in Strasbourg on Wednesday. The system would be identical in all member countries of the EEC, including Britain.

At the first direct elections in 1979 every country except Britain used one form or other of the proportional representation system to choose its MEPs. In June, 1980, the Parliament's political affairs committee was authorized to draw up a report on a uniform electoral procedure and inevitably the committee has chosen a PR system for Europe.

The one that has been favoured is based on the regional list system, whereby each party puts up a list of candidates for a large regional constituency with between three and 15 MEPs. Although special measures could be applied to regions like Scotland or Sicily, the system would be very similar everywhere.

The suggested system being debated on Wednesday would mean that voting would have to take place throughout the Community between Sunday morning and Monday evening. EEC citizens would have the right to vote provided they live in the European Community. This would mean that expatriates would at least have the right to vote for an MEP.

Most of the political groups in the Parliament have indicated that they are in favour of this system, with the notable exception of the European Democratic Group (British Conservatives). They intend to persuade the Parliament to accept a mixture of the British system of single member constituencies for three quarters of the seats, with the other quarter chosen by a kind of proportional representation.

This mixture is unlikely to find favour with the majority of the 434 members, so the regional list system is the one likely to go forward for the Council of Ministers to consider.

The reluctance of the European Democrats to accept the regional system is understandable given a comparison of the results they achieved in 1979 using the first past the post method, compared with the results they would have achieved with the proposed system.

# Day off for Reagan on a rancho

From Michael Hamlyn, Santa Barbara, California, March 8

When President Carter was in the White House he brought to it an air of informality, what the Americans call a "down home atmosphere". He and his staff wore jeans and informal shirts and listened to country music.

The Reagan White House has been rather different. Style has been the watchword in Washington, and formality has been the rule. But yesterday the Reagans attempted to out-do the Carters.

They attended a country and western concert, seated on hay bales in an open barn in the beautiful Santa Ynez valley in the mountains behind Santa Barbara.

The occasion was a mixture of country warmth and show business sophistication, of both down home and uptown and curiously it had a real Californian charm.

The Public Broadcasting Service, the quintessentially middle brow television channel, has been broadcasting a series of White House concerts patronized by the Reagans, usually in evening dress.

The series has included a maestro and a talented youngster in each programme. Maestros have included Rudolph Serkin, Beverly Sills and Gene Kelly. Yesterday he was Merle Haggard, a rumpled country and western singer with a deep baritone voice, a graceful musicality, and criminal record stretching back to his Oklahoma school. He was last released from prison when pardoned by Governor Reagan in 1972.

The young artist he introduced was a 21-year-old virtuoso of the electric violin called Mark O'Connor, who is currently appearing with a band called "The Dregs".

"That's new wave country music," he explained. The concert was held on the Rancho Sierra Grande, formerly the property of James Stewart, the film actor, but now owned by Mr and Mrs Stuart Gilred, who make a comfortable living by breeding, training, showing and selling "cutting horses".

The President and Mrs Reagan watched a demonstration of horse cutting before the show. A cutting horse is bred and trained to perform the job of separating an animal from a herd and preventing its return.

During a cutting horse contest the separated animal headed backwards, the herd and has to be prevented from returning there. As the calf dodges and twists to get by, the horse make counter moves to hold it where he is.

He is not guided by his rider, and indeed in yesterday's demonstration Mr Gilred removed the bridle as the horse stood head to head with the calf, and turned and swung according to its own instinct and training.

Mrs Reagan shivered slightly in the surprisingly chill wind and drizzle. Her husband put his arm around her. This week has seen the Reagans' wedding anniversary, and the press were pleased to see such a public display of affection.

As they passed the corral in which the press were packed, some reporters asked if the president intended to cut the defence budget.

Mrs Reagan replied: "Let's just talk about cattle and horses."

The Reagans and 850 others sat down under a marquee to a country feast of barbecued beef, beans, and a local red wine and beer. Then they adjourned to the barn for the concert.

Afterwards the President thanked the performers.

# HEATH ASKS THE CITY FOR AID

By Our Foreign Staff

Mr Edward Heath, the former Prime Minister and member of the Brandt Commission on international development, yesterday urged the City to take the lead in backing investment projects in the developing world.

As the United States moved more deeply into recession, it was an ideal opportunity for the City to return to its true and ancient function of financing production around the world, Mr Heath told a lunchtime audience at the Bishopsgate Institute in London. Only by investing in the developing world would the industrialized countries be able to stimulate demand and cut their own record unemployment.

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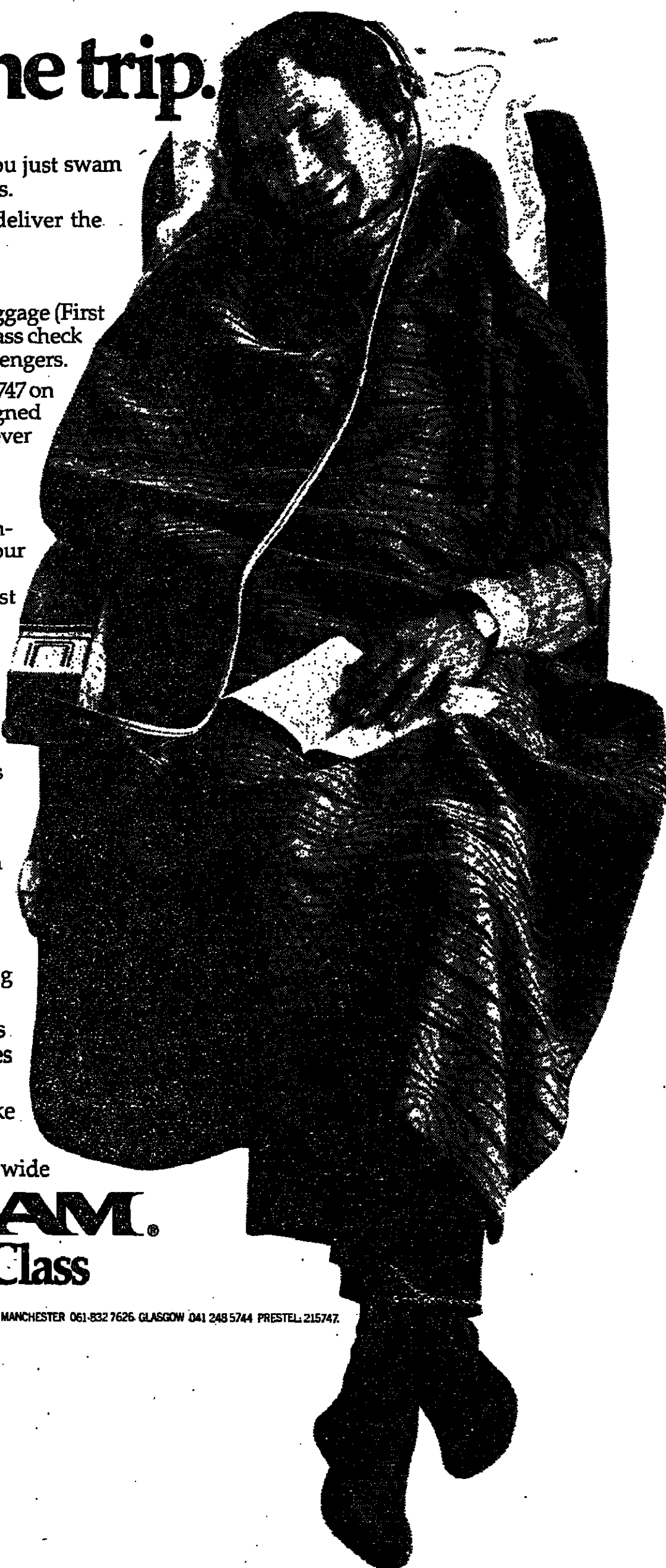
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# Zimbabwe tries four whites on treason charges

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, March 8

Four white Zimbabweans appeared in the High Court in Bulawayo today charged with capital offences stemming from alleged plots to destroy key installations and force the secession of the province of Matabeleland. The four accused, who have spent 112 days in detention since being arrested under emergency powers, were escorted before Mr Justice Gubbay in handcuffs and leg-irons for the first treason trial to be held in Zimbabwe since independence.

Dr Francis Bertrand, aged 58, a dentist; Mr Victor Radmore, aged 53, a council gardener; Mr Stephen Bertrand, aged 24; and Mr Allen Cavin, aged 21, all pleaded not guilty to planning to destroy bridges and railway lines to force secession. They also pleaded not guilty to hoarding arms of war — namely seven rifles, about 1,200 rounds of ammunition, two hand grenades and explosives.

## National Party elects de Klerk as leader

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, March 8

A powerful new figure has emerged on the South African political scene after the split in the ruling national party which led last week to the expulsion of Dr Andries Treurnicht, high priest of apartheid in its most ruthless form. And 15 other right-wing MPs opposed to power-sharing between whites, coloureds (those of mixed race) and Asians.

He is Mr F. W. de Klerk, the Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs aged 46, who was chosen unanimously at the weekend to replace Dr Treurnicht as chairman of the party's Transvaal wing, which is by far the biggest and most powerful of the four provincial components of the federally-organized party.

Since it came to power, Transvaal has usually provided the Prime Minister, and Mr de Klerk is already being talked of as the heir to Mr P. W. Botha, the present incumbent. Mr Botha himself, coming from the Cape, is an exception to the general rule, and he has never been entirely forgiven by the political barons of Transvaal for his transgressions.

Mr de Klerk played the key role in organizing the defeat of Dr Treurnicht at the end of last month when he challenged Mr Botha for the leadership of the party machine, and in confining the right-wing revolt to manageable proportions. The Prime Minister accordingly owes him a considerable political debt. He has also

Leading article, page 13

## UK avoids racial conference

By Simon Scott Plummer

The British Government yesterday rejected an invitation to attend a conference on South Africa organized by the Anti-Apartheid Movement and the United Nations Special Committee against Apartheid.

However, Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told an AAM delegation headed by the chairman, Mr Robert Hughes, Labour MP for Aberdeen North, that the Government would be prepared to send an official to listen to part of the conference, which is due to take place in London from March 11 to 13.

Mr Luce said he himself would be willing to meet the most Rev Trevor Huddleston, Archbishop of the Indian Ocean, and AAM honorary president, after the conference.

According to a Foreign Office spokesman, the AAM invitation was refused because the conference is being organized in connection with the International Year of Mobilization of Sanctions against South Africa. This was launched by a United Nations General Assembly resolution last December.

□ Cape Town: A Bill to modify apartheid in sport in South Africa was published in Parliament yesterday (Reuters reports).

□ Hongkong: A South African hockey team which two months ago cancelled a visit to Hongkong in March has arrived quietly in the British colony, two local newspapers reported yesterday (Reuters reports). They said the team, the Flamingoes, was hoping to arrange two games during its stay.

# Oil Bill threatened if not guillotined

## TIME TABLE

There was a danger that the Oil and Gas (Enterprise) Bill, which allows for the sale of shares in the upstream oil-producing business of the British National Oil Corporation and permits for competition in the supply of gas, would not get through both Houses of Parliament unless it was guillotined. Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, said he had moved the timetable motion.

He said he did so with some regret as only after the most careful consideration. Progress had been slow and had the Government not taken action, the passage of the Bill would have been in jeopardy.

One debate in committee took nearly six hours and discussion ranged from Tudor history to the merits of his and valley sheaves and the film career of President Reagan. This was enjoyable stuff but did not seem to enable the committee to make a great deal of progress.

At the end of the sitting on Thursday the committee had dealt with just 11 clauses and 25 clauses and four schedules remained to be considered. It was against this background that the Government reluctantly concluded that the guillotine was needed.

At the present rate of progress the Bill could still be in committee when the House approached the summer recess and that was not acceptable.

It was right for the Opposition to oppose the guillotine, which is not to be believed, but it was right for the Government to promote its legislative programme so that its measures could be passed in a reasonable time. The purpose of the motion was to ensure that the passage of the

Bill could be expedited with all the remaining stages being debated.

The motion proposed that the second reading should be taken on or before March 23. The committee would continue with four sittings before report. On report and second reading would be completed in a day and a half with consideration on the first day coming to a conclusion at midnight.

Mr John Silkin, chief Opposition spokesman on House of Commons affairs, said in the spring Mr Pym's fancy lightly turned to timetables.

Mr Richard Douglas (Donfermill) said the reason for the haste was that the Government had been looking at public assets it could flood and thereby reduce the public sector borrowing requirement. In view of the public sector of the world oil market, however, this was probably the worst possible time to put Britain on the market.

Because of the guillotine there would not now be sufficient time to examine the Bill. The Leader of the House was playing politics with people's lives.

Dr Dickson Mabon (Greenock) said the Government had agreed to a programme and now they were being compelled to rush it through. The Government should seriously consider withdrawing the motion and try to negotiate a voluntary timetable to satisfy everyone.

Mr Pym said the Government was not rushing it through. There was no shortage of legislative time. It was extraordinary and amusing to hear that the whole question of the British National Oil Corporation and the right of oil was taking place and that the statute would be within a reasonable time. The purpose of the motion was to ensure that the passage of the

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The answer was that ideology, particularly on the Government front bench, always came to the fore. What the Government called "investigation or privatisation" was, in fact, its own particular ideology.

But there was a better word than privatisation. It was "Americanisation", the selling off of publicly owned assets at bargain basement prices and regardless of the public interest. This was a new and important topic.

The Bill was wicked and evil from the point of view of the country's prospects. An attempt was being made to prevent its being properly discussed so that the people would not understand properly what was being done to their name.

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# MP's query Reagan invitation

## US PRESIDENT

A number of Labour MPs wanted to know who issued the invitation to President Reagan to address both Houses of Parliament during his visit to Britain in June.

Mr Frank Dobson (Camden, Highborn and St. Pancras South, E.C.1) said they would like to know whether the Speaker had been consulted. "Whereas there were a number of distinguished American presidents in the past, or existing heads of other states, to whom such an invitation might reasonably have been extended, they did not believe that a preponderant number of the British people welcomed it being extended to President Reagan."

The Speaker (Mr George Thomas) I have been here long enough not to believe everything I read in the papers.

Mr George Cunningham (Islington, South and Finsbury, Ind. Lab.) said some of us would be surprised if the head of a foreign state or anyone else could be invited apparently by Parliament without the Houses taking a decision to do so.

It is the Government that extends an invitation to Mr X to appear in the Princes Chamber or Westminster Hall and then write to the party to that, is one situation the Government has in its own hands to arrange, I suppose.

But the invitation is from the Commons and the Lords I would hope that needs the approval of the two Houses.

Mr Speaker: I will look at it and write to him. There has not been such a visit during my six years in the Chair, not that I recall off-hand any other (Laughter).

If it would help the House (he said later) I will make a simple statement, but I cannot say when because I take time to consider these matters.

Not enough pedestals

Former Prime Ministers Mr Stanley Baldwin and Mr Ramsay MacDonald were two candidates for statues in the new House of Commons, but this was unlikely in the immediate future, Mr Francis Pym, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House.

Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab.), who had wanted Mr Pym to ask the Services Committee to consider placing within the House statues commemorating champions of civil liberties in the United Kingdom, said that more appropriate than whether or not there should be a statue of Mr Baldwin in the members' lobby would be to honour those people, such as the Chartist and Suffragette leaders, who had established universal suffrage.

Mr Pym: That is a matter of opinion. Mr Winnick must seek wide support in the House if he wishes to see the ultimate success of that particular desire.

John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): Having regard to the Conservative Party's reversion of 1887 on this matter, Mrs Pankhurst's Conservative connections, and the work of the Conservative and Unionist Women's Suffrage Association, should we not have bipartisan agreement on a suitable commemoration, but not necessarily this one?

Mr Pym: That matter can be pursued. There are many candidates but few pedestals. Sir Anthony Meyer (West Flint, C): Would it not be appropriate to honour the two Prime Ministers who did most to enable the Labour Party to enter this place — Stanley Baldwin and Ramsay MacDonald?

Mr Pym: They are two candidates. There is a certain support for one of these two Prime Ministers.

Lord Elystan-Morgan (Lab.) said that in the case of a bereavement award, it was often not the money that was important, because that could never compensate for the loss of a life, but it was an expression of the part of society of the gravity with which an accidental death was regarded.

Lord Hailsham of St. Marylebone said that the only way to talk about the sensitive matter of bereavement was in a personal way. He lost his mother when he was a boy, his father in middle age, and his wife when he was already an old age pensioner.

I am not going to differentiate (he said) between the degree of loss and the agony of bereavement in any of these cases. I have always taken the view that there was no sum of money which is not an insult to the bereaved person whether it is £100 or £10. I know that I am not expressing the view of the majority but nothing will alter that opinion.

He had opted for a determinate sum in the Bill, and would follow a policy which was not his opinion.

The Bill was read a second time.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Social Services (Mr. Minister: Budget, Lords (2.30): Civil Government (Scotland) Bill, report, second day. Debate on Pictorial Island.

Haileham: Fixed sum for loss of spouse

The Bill introduced a new claim for damages for bereavement. The proposal followed the Law Commission's recommendations of 1973. It would give the fixed sum by way of damages to a spouse for the loss of the other spouse and to parents for the loss of a child. The amount was fixed by the Bill at £3,500, but would be capable of being increased by order.

In deciding that this was the right approach the Government had rejected proposals in the Pearson report to award damages for the loss of parents and grandparents for the loss of a child, and to award damages for the loss of a spouse for the loss of a spouse.

Haileham: Fixed sum for loss of spouse

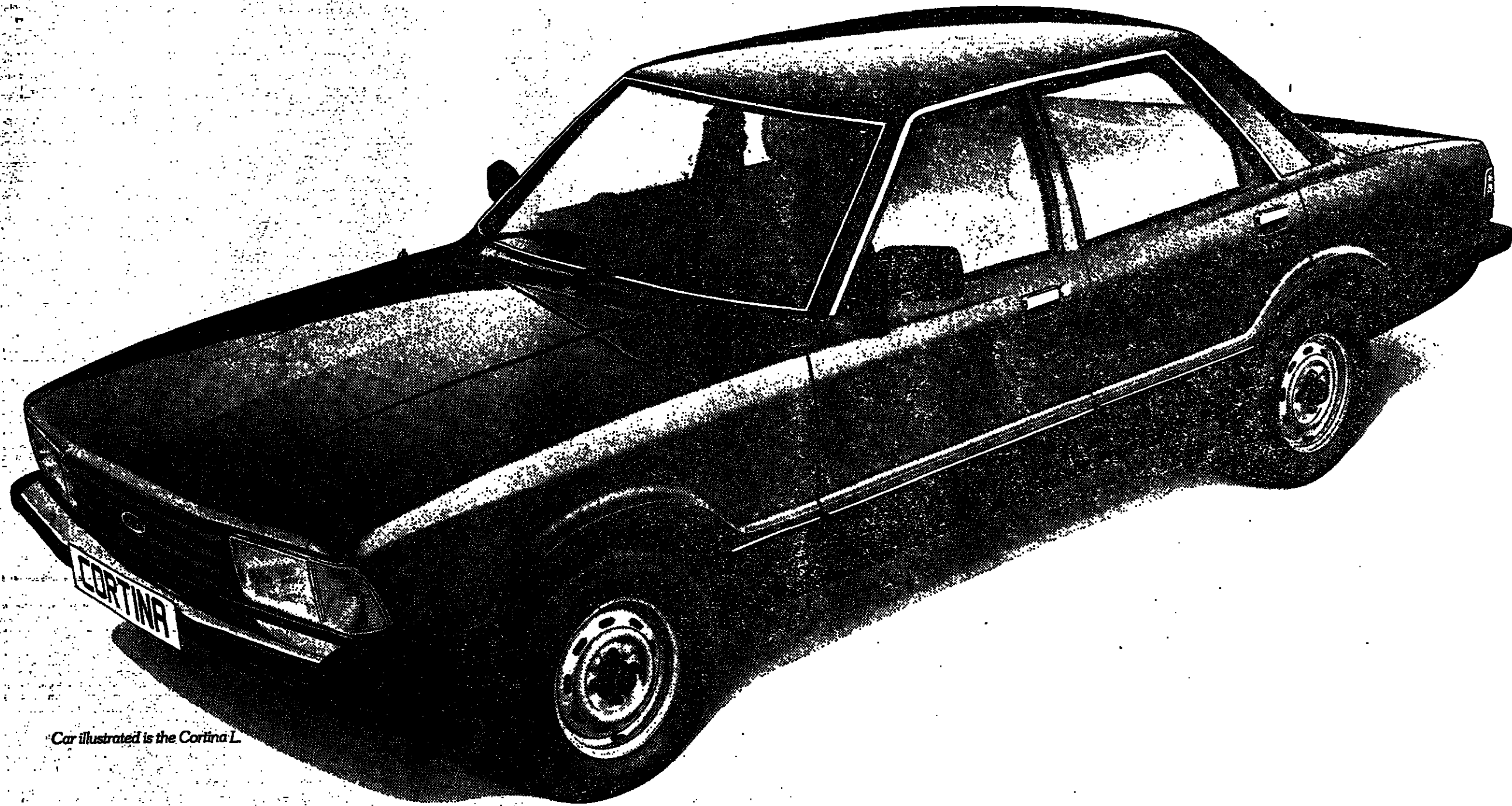
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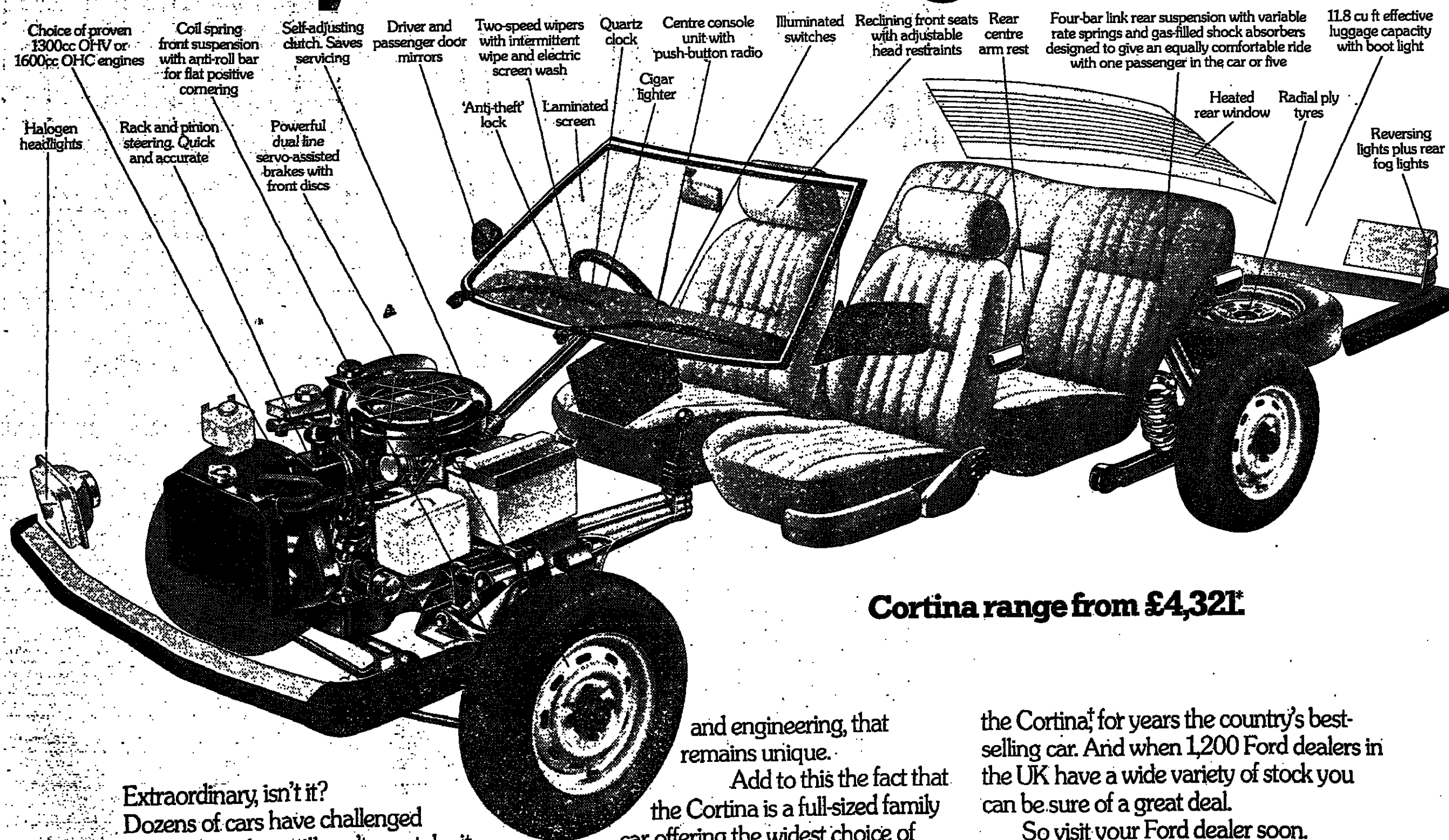
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## THE ARTS

## Television

## View into the cage

Survivors of concentration camps, kidnappings and hostage situations may be lucky but they remain victims. Those who suffer severe cruelty, psychiatrists believe, are almost certain to be affected later in life. On BBC2 last night, *Horizon* concerned itself with *The Victims*, correcting what at least one expert witness, himself a professor of psychiatry and a survivor of Auschwitz, thought to be an over-weighted psychiatric concern in the West with the aggressors. It had to be harrowing. Victims proliferate and there were perhaps almost too many witnesses to permit one to think through the horror to the ways in which they survived.

We heard from an American general, a flyer who survived five years in the Banoi Hilton, where 95 per cent of the prisoners were tortured and "where no discomfort was too great for the guests". How much a situation puts a man in a position where he has to fight himself, decide on the order of his values, so that he can endure.

Sir Geoffrey Jackson recalled 200 days in the hands of Uruguayan urban guerrillas "in a bird-cage inside a hen-coop", making observations on his identity while not taking himself too seriously.

There was a Dutch headmaster, head of a boarding school and 105 schoolchildren for 20 days by South Moluccan terrorists, who described the corrosive effect of being deprived of his responsibility and the consequences on his private and professional life. Then there were the concentration camp victims, who sustained deliberate dehumanization. One explained the apparent passivity of such prisoners. Survival, he had found, was a matter of becoming invisible: doing nothing to attract the attention of the guards. Rebellion, he said, never takes place without the possibility of success.

A Dutch psychiatrist told of his continuing work among concentration camp victims, trying to exorcise the horrors that haunt their subconscious.

Christopher La Fontaine's programme was a sad portrait of man's inhumanity but salutary in that it reminded us that survivors need more than congratulations on their luck.

Police on BBC1 focused on the procedure following a cell death, through the examination of the officers concerned in the arrest and the grisly detail of the post-mortem.

Sixty-three people died in police custody in 1980. In this case a 26-year-old man was taken to drink. Rules demanded that such people are awakened and spoken to every half hour. Here that was shortened to every 15 minutes but, despite this, the man inhaled the gastric contents of his stomach and, though given cardiac and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation by police officers, died. Three constables were subsequently commended.

Police, with its unadorned technique is, I understand, surprising the BBC by its grip on audiences. I doubt if this programme could have been better done, demonstrating as it did the need for vigilance from society but also the need for sympathy for the police in another nasty aspect of their work.

Dennis Hackett

John Cage, Robert Ashley, Bruce Myers, Peter Greenaway and Bruce Schwartz are among the line-up of international artists appearing in the Almeida International Festival '82 which will take place at The Almeida Theatre and four other venues in North London from May 28 to June 20. Highlights include Cage at seventy with Cage participating in a series of performances of his own works and the British premiere of Bruce Myers' Obie Award-winning opera, *The Dybbuk*.

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## Charm of moving from major to minor

The Plein Air Tradition

Louise Whitford Gallery

The Souls

Bury Street Gallery

Ben Nicholson: New Work

Waddington Galleries I and II

Brigitte Simon

Taranman Gallery

Of course great art is best. But even if we could live always on the heights, great art cannot be relied on to tell us all we want to know: it tends to throw light mainly on itself, and not very much on the period it comes from or the taste of ordinary mortals. Minor art is certainly more tempting to live with: it also fulfils a necessary function by providing a background and a context for great art, without which we would not appreciate its greatness, and summing up for us other tastes, other times.

None of the paintings in the Louise Whitford Gallery, 25a Lowndes Street, Belgrave, until March 20, is the sort of masterpiece which in some way transforms our view of life or art. There is, in fact, only one, Henry Herbert La Thangue's *Traveling Harvesters* (1977), which even pretends to be a major work by a major figure of the period. (And one could hardly claim that La Thangue, however pleasant and accomplished a painter, is a master in hiding.) And yet the show as a whole is singularly charming and coherent, containing many paintings that it would actually be a pleasure and not too much of a responsibility to own, and does after all tell us a lot about the tastes and fantasies of our art-loving great-grandfathers.

"Fantasies" may seem an odd word to apply to a group of painters who were somewhat self-righteous about their attachment to reality, and the importance more gave to working on the spot, in the open air, rather than carefully constructing their compositions in a studio. Most of them did, on most occasions, work up their sketches in a studio, and sketches made on the spot. But the principles of letting the fresh air in and painting from direct observation of the way things were, rather than theories about how



A Christmas card designed for Lady Elcho by Burne Jones

things ought to be, remains consistent.

For all that, what tends to emerge from these pictures is a sort of Arcadian dream. The artists concerned, delighted in the "unspoiled" countryside, the undeveloped seacoast, and though they were devoted to peasants and fishermen, they liked them all neatly washed and brushed-up, beaming with boyish mischief (Scott Tukey's young fishermen, anyway) or posed with monumental immobility against a beautifully rendered landscape and loaded, whenever possible, with some additional weight of symbolic significance.

The paintings of such as Fred Hall, Stanhope Forbes, Tarrick Williams and La Thangue are all part of the cultivated townsman's flight to the country towards the end of the nineteenth century. Did they ever really exist, these lads and lassies, these solitary reapers and mowers? Or were they primarily the invention of the briefly but immensely influential Bastien-Lepage, reworked in the looser brushstrokes and suffused with a golden glow learnt from the French Impressionists? One certainly gets the sense of a studio, and the art, observed in the refracting mirror of other people's sensibilities rather than directly from the life these artists supposedly had before them as they painted.

## Galleries

All the same, we must beware of getting caught in the Ruskinian trap of moralizing about method. What counts in this sort of painting is not so much truth to reality as the strength of the dream. And here the artists are mutually supportive; they encapsulate vividly for us the tone of the times. No doubt Fred Hall's *Geese in a Cornfield* or George Gascoyne's *Evening, Brittany* (a peasant girl, a cow and an expanse of painfully blue sea) or John Arnesby Brown's *Raking the Hay* are drenched in the light that never was on land or sea. But they still convey the painters' passionate desire that things should be so. And the occasional scenes of leisureed middle-class people (such as the painters themselves) taking their ease in the country or at the seaside, like Dorotea Sharp's *Morning Stroll* or Sir John Lavery's *A Summer Evening*, carry a strong charge of nostalgia which may make them difficult to evaluate as important works of art, but shamefully, shamelessly supplements our enjoyment.

Enjoyment is the main thing conveyed by Jane Abdy's and Charlotte Gere's delightful (and informative) show *The Souls* at the Bury Street Gallery, St James's, until the end of the month. Certainly these beautiful and talented ladies (for one feels that the ladies were the moving spirits of this culti-

turned-of-the-century group) were by no stretch of the imagination major figures in the arts, though they consorted with and inspired a number of men who were. Neither Watts nor Burne Jones is exactly a nobody, nor, a little later, is Sargent, and their portraits of members of the group, as well as works done for them, right down to the shoes Burne-Jones designed for Lady Horner in 1877, lend some unexpected artistic distinction to what is essentially, in its own small way, an historical exhibition more about people than about art.

Not that, in the case of the Souls, the two can be so readily separated. The Souls had the money, the leisure and the education to patronize the best artists, to influence taste, and even themselves to practice, with surprising accomplishment, some of the politer arts. Violet, Duchess of Rutland, in particular, was a very accomplished draughtsman, and an amazingly skilful sculptor, even if the rumour is correct that she was assisted a little by her friend Alfred Gilbert on her masterpiece, the tomb of her eldest son, the original plaster for which is lurking somewhere in the depths of the Tate. But the show, again, is chiefly of interest for conjuring up a vanished age for us, as powerfully that one can almost hear the rustle of rich silks and catch a trace of

ghostly perfume lingering on the heavy air of an Edwardian drawing-room.

To move on to the show, at Waddington's two galleries in Cork Street until March 27, of Ben Nicholson's very latest works, done in the months immediately before his death, is to come with a bump right up to date. One might not expect so; the late works of very old artists are not generally noted for their immediacy. But in that as in so much else Nicholson was the exception. In the last year or two, when his visual world was bounded by the shelves of mugs and jugs in his Hampstead studio, he remained strong to respond with a sheer excitement, an outflowing of creative energy, which could put many painters half his age to shame.

It is not easy to account rationally for the brimming life of these mostly small, seemingly slight images. The same small group of mugs and bottles and flasks recur constantly in various combinations or alone. They are drawn in strong black outline, then washes of colour are applied atmospherically over them and the pieces of paper cut to curious irregular shapes before mounting. Sometimes they are set against an economical evocation of landscape - perhaps no more than a skyline somewhere in the distance - and the pieces concerned titled *Welsh Coast* or *Lago Maggiore* or *Sussex*, though these titles point to a memory or an inspiration rather than any literal depiction. There is something curiously moving about the idea of the old, virtually bedridden painter summoning up places he had known in the remembered line of a long unvisited hillside. But these are works which have no need of such adventitious, anecdotal support. Like them or not, they are vibrantly alive; just unmistakably, unarguably there.

A much lesser artist who yet has something of the same capacity for making the most out of the least is Brigitte Simon, who has a tiny, exquisite show on at the Taranman Gallery, 236 Brompton Road, until March 27. These are all small drawings of rock formations, in pencil and white tempera, which have actually been executed, along with a fellow in the south transept, is exactly the same in concept and colouring as the drawings. One can only be astonished that the idea can successfully be writ so large, and admiring the authority of the Rheims authorities in permitting such a quietly radical scheme to be carried out.

John Russell Taylor

## Concerts

besides solving all the knotty problems of ensemble, embodied a reassuring message about its essential unity. And there was nearly as much virtuosity from the orchestra as from the soloist.

At least in principle, a new acoustics might shed new light on a familiar score, yet the main point of Mr. Abbado's account of the Symphony Number 1 of Brahms was its force, its sheer physical presence. In contrast with the spiky, brittle, almost "analytical" orchestration of Prokofiev, this, not unnaturally, sounded homogeneous, although with the colours subdued, some of the richness dried out. A point which became apparent with the advance was that although the performance of course had plenty of dynamic variety, the music sounded as though it were all on the same plain, the same level of intensity.

Max Harrison

## Fires of London

## Round House

Shock in a work of art is famously the most perishable of commodities, so there must be a reason why Maxwell Davies's two major works of music theatre, *Vesalii icones* and *Eight Songs for a Mad King* are

becoming with the passing years not less but more violent, outrageous and disturbing. There must also be a reason why at the same time, perhaps paradoxically, they are becoming more enjoyable.

And, of course, the answer is a simple one: the superlative, extraordinary, have been assimilated, but the deeper questions, and the deeper beauty, remain. Audiences attending the double bill on its countrywide tour and I would urge anyone within striking distance of a performance to see it - will probably know that they are going to observe a danced version of the Stations of the Cross and a spectacle of insanity. They may be less prepared to find themselves wondering, after *Eight Songs*, whether sane political power is possible, or in *Vesalii icones* marvelling at a solo cello line that sings for half an hour in lyrical rapture.

Alexander Baillie, cellist of the Fires of London, must take much of the credit for the success of the latter work as seen last night, and the new choreography by Ian Spink, executed by Mark Wraith, is a faithful response to his grace and control.

The dance is poised and posed, often suggesting the earliest Greek statuary in its utterly cold energy, and the emphasis in the work has

shifted from an anatomy of Christ to an imitation and attempted understanding, rudely shattered at the end. In *Eight Songs*, Michael Rippa repeats his gleeful burlesque interpretation of the king, and in both works the ensemble is conducted with a tight mix of precision and enthusiasm by John Carewe.

Paul Griffiths

## Emil Gilels

## Festival Hall

Devoting his generous programme to Beethoven alone, Emil Gilels not only evokes memories of the living composer in physiognomy and build but also in the actual style of his playing. The enormous strength, character, unparalleled bravura and fluency, as well as exceptionally beautiful legato noted by Czerny in 1803, were all there, together with that uncompromising directness, even brusqueness of manner, so much part of the man. It was the kind of Beethoven recital of which legends are made.

Not the least part of the miracle was the arresting new light thrown on each work through the strictest observance of the composer's own markings. The Largo of the early D major sonata Op 10 was an outstanding in-

stance; we heard not Mr Gilels's feelings about the tragedy but Beethoven's own voice.

Elsewhere sturdy rhythms and arresting dynamic contrasts, as well as delectable strains of improvisatory fancy in finale, helped to make this one of the most remarkable performances of all.

In the *Prometheus Variations*, Op 35, which followed, the theme emerged pregnant enough, even at its barest, to make its future vicissitudes every listener's urgent, unremitting concern. The reading conveyed the firebrand and the visionary with equal mastery, with fine control of texture in the final fugue.

Completing the programme with the last three sonatas of the middle period, Mr Gilels's rumbustious, carefree vigour in the first movement of Op 79 in G, followed by an exquisitely phrased, leisurely Andante, made his performance work new stature. Characterization was no less arresting in *Les Adieux*, its slow movement all the more poignant for simplicity. And in Op 90 in E minor, still another masterpiece, the beautifully timed and shaded exchanges of the first movement, was Mr Gilels's transformation of the often facile-sounding finale into a melting benediction. He sent us home at peace.

Joan Chissell

## Dance

## A lively expressiveness

## La Fille mal Gardée

## Sadler's Wells

Roland Price was given his first important solos within his first year with the Royal Ballet and now, at 21, he has already taken the male leads in ballets by Ashton, Fokine, MacMillan and that marvelous posthumous choreographer After-Petipa. Last week he added the virtuosic role from *La Vivandière* to his repertoire, and in a couple of months he is due for his first Franz in *Coppelia*.

Saturday afternoon brought a first London showing for him and Nicola Karak in *La Fille mal gardée* following three of four performances on tour. She attracted attention as quickly as he did, but had to wait a little longer for the big leading roles. One benefit from the enforced wait is that she has had time to make good the occasional weakness in her footwork which once flawed her otherwise rapturous quality as a dancer. Watching the way she almost skimmed the stage in the fast *lequel* diagonals, it was obvious how

far she has come in her technique. Karak's dancing, however, has never relied solely on technique. There is a lively expressiveness in everything he does, even a pure display solo conveys joyousness or some similar quality when she dances it. She has a particularly animated face, but the expressiveness comes from her body; in *Fille*, for instance, she shows her feelings vividly in the last scene with her back to the audience, simply by the way she pulls up her shoulders. Price does not have that gift, at least, as yet. His

dancing has finesse as well as strength: look at the way he brings his feet in during the circling, backward jumps that start his biggest solo. He shows himself as skilled and attentive in his partnering as in his own dancing, and he acts his role conscientiously; there was already more responsiveness between him and Karak this time than when I saw them at Monte Carlo over Christmas.

Yet there is a curious reticence in Price's dancing, for all his bravura skill. With the right sort of coaching, something exciting could be developed from that unusual

combination, but I suspect that he will need a choreographer to become interested in him before he realizes his full potential.

David Morse has greatly enlivened his playing of Widow Simone; among the comic touches were a moment when the old lady's precarious dignity was ruffled by almost falling out of the donkey-cart, and another in the clog dance when her slide took her right off stage.

David Bintley's Alain remains a masterpiece of bitter humour.

John Percival

## Interview: Arlene Saunders

## Insisting on an independent line

Opera North went to Hamburg for the soprano to take the title role in their production of *Manon Lescaut*, which opens on Thursday at Leeds. She is Arlene Saunders, who was born and bred in the Mid-West, but has made Hamburg her home these many years now. She prefers not to travel a great deal, apart from her annual return to America, and has only twice before appeared on stage in Britain: as Santa in *The Flying Dutchman*, also for Opera North, and as Minnie in Covent Garden's *La fanciulla del West*. Does she regard herself as part of the great American vocal invasion of Europe?

"Not at all. By the time I got here in the late Sixties the invasion was over. Something more like a counter-attack was going on, particularly in the German houses. They had their fill of American singers and were much keener on engaging their own native artists. The exception was Hamburg. Rolf Liebermann [who subsequently became Intendant at the Paris Opera] was in charge and he never gave a fig for fashion."

"He had total courage in his own convictions. He took risks and he was prepared to face flops; but he always supported those he believed in. There was a bunch of us

was determined to come to Europe, partly because of a personal challenge. In America my agent, who was really more of a manager, also looked after the tenor Jan Peerce. He was terribly famous in the States, but in Europe nobody knew him. Peerce, Peerce. Ah, you mean Peter Peerce, the Britten expert, sings at Covent Garden. It was partly his own fault: as a Jew he refused all German engagements after the war. But I was determined that I should be heard in Europe."

So Arlene Saunders came to Hamburg and that has remained her base. The choice between being the house lyric soprano, specializing in the German repertoire, and an international star flitting from city to city had to be a deliberate one. The visiting performer always has a curiosity value for the audience; the resident has time to do a little polishing. Miss Saunders prefers to polish.

The same independence shows in selecting the roles which have given her most satisfaction so far in her career: Handel's Jephtha in a Renner production and Strauss's Four Last Songs in Béjart's ballet of the same name. There is nothing perverse in picking out these, she claims. *Jephtha*, which some of us find one of Handel's most tedious operas, has infinite rewards if this music is properly probed. Arlene Saunders reckons. And the Four Last Songs also reflect that love of a challenge.

"When Béjart first put it on in Brussels he used a tape. But when he took the ballet to Paris the unions, worried by any of that, live performers or not, I was hauled on to the stage and found myself in the middle of one of the most perfect productions I've ever seen."

To complete that independent mode of thought Arlene Saunders confesses to "no great love of Verdi." "I probably be lynched for saying this, but I'd much rather sing Puccini. Indeed, I've only done one Verdi role on stage and that was in *Un giorno di regno* at San Diego quite recently. Now no one could call that a great opera. Perhaps I regret not having tried *Desdemona*, but I certainly don't regard it as a dream role, such as Isolde for instance. OK, I don't have the Flagstad or Nilsson type of voice, but people like Ligendza are doing it much, under and warmer nowadays. I'd like to have a shot - in a nice, small, house. Audiences think you are born adult - you're not, you have to toddle first."

John Higgins

at Hamburg - Tatiana Troyanos, Tom Krause, Hans Sotin, myself - we all treated him as a father figure. He was always there in his own house and he moulded our careers, telling us when it was the right moment to take on a slightly heavier role, and when to hold back.

"It was Liebermann who auditioned me and gave me my Hamburg engagement. I

Two comedies Season's Greetings by Alan Ayckbourn and *Noises Off* by Michael Frayn, are to be presented in the West End later this month by producer Michael Codron.

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Where do we stand in the league table against our European competitors? David Blake, economics editor, finds some minuses and pluses in the Government's record

## Just how badly has Britain been doing?

Are Britain's economic problems just part of a wider world recession or are they largely home grown? That question is bound to get ever more pressing as Britain starts moving towards the next election with its economic performance likely to be the key issue.

The Government has a straightforward answer. Unemployment has risen everywhere and output has been depressed. The world is going through a painful cure from the disease of inflation and Britain had no way of opting out. The critics say that our wounds have been largely self-inflicted, with government policies being added up to the deflation of a scale seen nowhere else in the world. The charts on this page support at least one part of the critics' view. Britain's recession has been much worse than the rest of the world. Our output has fallen more, our unemployment has grown faster and even on inflation we have not done particularly well. The picture they present is a simple one of Britain outpacing the world in failure. The truth is more complex.

The industrial world has spent the time since Mrs Thatcher came to office absorbing the effects of the oil price rises of 1973. The Opec nations are on the run now, but in the second half of the 1970s they dealt a blow to the world economy which was just as heavy as that of 1973. It hit Britain sooner and in a different way from the rest of the world.

A rising oil price does two things to the economy of an industrial country. It pushes up inflation, because the price of other goods does not fall when the price of oil goes up, as classical economics says it should. Instead, other prices go on as before or even accelerate. The second thing it does is to transfer purchasing power from the industrial country to the oil producers.

In the short term, this means that the industrial nations tend to run into balance of payments deficits. In the first 18 months of the current Government

those deficits arrived with a vengeance throughout the industrial world. Japan, which had had a \$17,000m surplus in 1978, had moved to an \$11,000m deficit by 1980. West Germany did even worse, running up a deficit of \$16,500m in 1980. France had a deficit of nearly \$8,000m.

The country which completely bucked this trend was Britain. Our current account was in small deficit when Mrs Thatcher took office; by the second half of 1980 it was in massive surplus.

Britain's surplus was no accident. It flowed naturally from three causes. One was that, as we shall see, domestic policies made the British recession particularly severe, cutting back our imports. The second was the direct im-

Sir Geoffrey Howe. In a world of floating exchange rates, the international money markets are highly sensitive to the idea that a country is going to put the fight against inflation at the top of its list of priorities.

The pound soared and many British companies realized they could no longer hope to compete. They started to cut back on stocks, production and investment. They were right to do so. On the most widely used definition of competitiveness, British industry's position worsened sharply between early 1979 and early 1981.

The pound's rise was only half the problem. Most countries in the 24-nation Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the rich man's club

seven countries was only 10.5 per cent, and even the next worst performer, France, recorded only a 14.5 per cent increase.

Why did this happen to us? Some of the blame certainly lies with pent-up pressures from the previous Government's pay policy. Some lies with what in retrospect looks like the very stupid decision to cut income tax and increase indirect taxes in the 1979 Budget. The first year of the Thatcher experiment was subjected to enough inflationary pressures without the Government adding to them. But much of the surge in costs was simply the slowness of the economy to accept that dramatic increases in living standards were no longer possible. Taking 1980 and 1981

drop in manufacturing production between June 1979 and December 1981, the latest figures we have. Some of the loss simply consisted of the death of industries which had to go anyway. But some was the result of the loss of world competitiveness and tough domestic policies. For even without the external problems we have faced over the years since the present Government took office, domestic policy would have tightened the vice on the economy. A measure of this comes from the OECD in Paris.

After removing the extent to which recession itself has boosted government deficits, it estimates that British government policy got much tighter in 1980 and 1981. Added together, the changes rep-

resented a tightening of just over 4 per cent of national output. In the same period, none of the countries illustrated in the charts on this page had a tightening of policy even a fifth as great as Britain's.

For the seven largest industrial countries as a whole, all of whom were grappling with inflation, the tightening of policy was about a quarter as fierce as here. What have the results been? One is the sharp decline in manufacturing and, as an unintended consequence, the growth of the public sector's share of the total economy. The

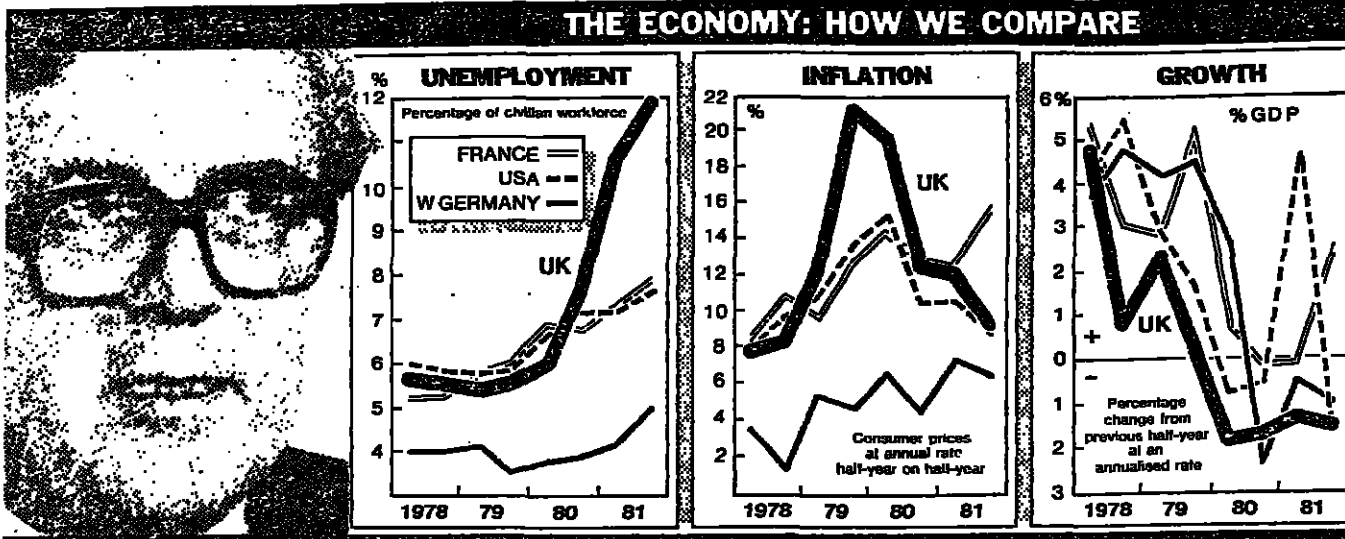
So it is far for the course for us to do about 1 per cent worse a year than the European nations.

This impression that, although not all the blame can be attached to government policies, there has been something especially bad about the British experience, comes through in the unemployment figures. In the year to the autumn of 1981, unemployment in Britain rose by more than a million. We accounted for a third of the increase in unemployment in the industrial world even though we have only one fourteenth of the population.

The other side of this coin is, of course, that our productivity performance has been better than that of our competitors.

How does the balance sheet add up? There have been real achievements in the British economy over the past three years, but they have been gained at a price far higher than that paid by any of our major competitors.

Whether we ought to be starting from here or not, the task for the Chancellor now is to make sure that the past years are made worthwhile.



port of North Sea oil. While other countries were moving into big oil deficits, Britain was becoming a net oil exporter.

The third reason was that the pound rose, pushing up the amount we received for our exports in the short term even though it increased the problems of Britain's manufacturing industry in the long term.

Because we have oil, the rest of the world marked up the value of the pound as oil prices rose. The rise in the pound was made even sharper by the tough monetary policies announced by

of the world's economy, accepted that higher oil prices meant lower living standards. We did not. Average earnings in Britain were already rising faster than in the rest of the world when Mrs Thatcher took over. But in the 1979-80 pay round they went through the roof. In the year to the late summer of 1980 they went up by more than 22 per cent compared to an OECD average of little more than half of that. In 1980, unit labour costs in British manufacturing went up by 23.2 per cent; the average for the OECD's largest

together, real earnings in Britain went up by 8 per cent; our national output went down by about 4 per cent. A combination of rising exchange rates and a pay explosion meant that unwittingly the Thatcher Government in its first year presided over exactly what it warned could not happen: paying ourselves more without producing more. The effects of this were felt above all in manufacturing industry. For the industrial world as a whole, manufacturing output has been broadly stagnant since early 1979. But the United Kingdom saw a 19 per cent

resented a tightening of just over 4 per cent of national output. In the same period, none of the countries illustrated in the charts on this page had a tightening of policy even a fifth as great as Britain's. For the seven largest industrial countries as a whole, all of whom were grappling with inflation, the tightening of policy was about a quarter as fierce as here. What have the results been? One is the sharp decline in manufacturing and, as an unintended consequence, the growth of the public sector's share of the total economy. The

## Stretching the Queen's purse a little further

Not even the Queen can escape the Government's financial thumb-screws. The increase in her Civil List, announced after the Budget this afternoon, is expected to be only about 7 per cent, well below the current rate of inflation.

Buckingham Palace verges on apoplexy at the sight of "Pay rise for Queen" headlines. The Civil List is not the Queen's pocket money; it is her expense account for running the machinery of monarchy, and was first paid to George III in 1760 in return for his surrender of the crown lands.

Pleading that the Crown was moving into the red, the Queen in 1971 had her Civil List doubled to £380,000, after a searching exploration of the royal purse by a Commons select committee. It has been increased every year since 1975 because of inflation, and after last year's 10 per cent rise reached £4.2m, a figure which includes the controversial allowances paid to other members of the Royal Family.

Nearly three-quarters of the Queen's Civil List is spent on salaries for the royal household, from private secretaries to palace cleaners.

Most are members of the Civil Service Union on Civil Service pay rates. Last year, after a six-week strike campaign (from which royal household members were excused by their union) the Government awarded a 7½ per cent pay rise. This year's rise is expected, after arbitration, to be not more than 5 per cent.

The Palace has been making some efforts of its own to cut costs. About 20 jobs have gone in the past year, bringing the household's strength down to about 320. Savings of many thousands of pounds have also been made in the Palace's huge stationery bill, although every letter received is still acknowledged.

Since 1971 the Queen has had no personal allowance from the Civil List: instead she meets her private expenses from her own private fortune, chiefly derived from income from the 52,000 acres of the Duchy of Lancaster estates, which range from the Savoy Hotel to Yorkshire grouse moors.

Allowances paid to other members of the Royal Family, however, fall into a much grayer area where the boundary between private pocket money and legitimate expenses



Family allowances: top, the Queen Mother, £285,000; Princess Anne, £100,000; bottom, Princess Margaret, £98,000; Prince Andrew, £20,000; Prince Edward, £20,000.

as for undertaking royal duties is very ill-defined. At present the Queen Mother gets £285,000, Prince Philip £160,000, Princess Anne £100,000, Princess Margaret £98,000, and Prince Andrew £20,000. Prince Edward, having reached 18, will appear on the List for the first time this year with an allowance of £20,000, most of which will be held in trust for him until he is 21.

Other, lesser royals, including the Duke of Gloucester and Kent and Princess Alexandra, also receive substantial allowances, but to cover their costs the Queen makes an annual refund to the Treasury from her own private resources, which last year amounted to £285,000. It is the closest the monarch

ever comes to paying tax. The payment of those allowances, which has been much criticized by Mr William Hamilton and other Labour backbenchers, will come under scrutiny next year when, under the terms of the 1971 select committee report, another major review of the royal finances is due.

The one first-rank royal who does not appear in the Civil List at all is the Prince of Wales. He gets no government funding, but lives instead off the handsome revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall. Before he married he took half for himself and gave half to the Treasury, but he now takes three-quarters. As the Duchy revenues last year totalled £550,445, his annual income is now more than £400,000, tax free.

But the Civil List, which costs the taxpayer about the same as it costs the Duchy of Lancaster, is only a fraction of the true cost of monarchy. Add on the cost of the Queen's Flight (£3m), the royal yacht (£2.7m), the royal train, the free postage, and the maintenance of the royal palaces (£2.1m for Buckingham Palace and £2.9m for

Windsor Castle are this year's estimates) and the total reaches an estimated £15m, enough for ten battle tanks or 3½ miles of six-lane motorway.

The Queen's personal fortune is an area of wild speculation and very little hard fact. All that is known is that the profits of the Duchy of Lancaster are somewhere in excess of £500,000 a year, and she is entitled to the entire amount.

Much of the Queen's wealth is illusory. She owns a priceless art collection spread among the royal palaces, but that properly belongs to the nation, and it is highly unlikely that she would ever sell it off to raise ready cash. Even more personal possessions like the royal stamp collection begun by her grandfather, George V, now one of the most valuable anywhere, are assets which even she would regard as more public than private.

Besides her Duchy revenues, her main source of private income is a large portfolio of investments. And she is one of the country's most successful racehorse owners and breeders.

Alan Hamilton



A policeman directs emergency traffic on Three Mile Island during the 1979 nuclear scare. Today the town is peaceful and business booms.

## Why the public must be told

Three Mile Island three years on: the chairman of the CEBG assesses the mood in the neighbourhood

Middletown sounds like a town in Pennsylvania. It is, in fact, a town of about 12,000 people, and it is the nearest sizable community to the nuclear power station on Three Mile Island. "Even when we have a reactor accident it is attributed to our big city neighbour Harrisburg", comments Mayor Reid, the man who probably knows more about emergency procedures than any other mayor in the United States. Since the reactor accident in March 1979 he has dealt with a chemical spillage at a factory, which resulted in evacuation of a number of homes and a train derailment within the town. The neighbourhood also has a long-standing concern — the flooding of the Susquehanna River.

Our visit was arranged by the Federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, but we were interested less in the official view of the reactor accident than in the opinions of the local citizens. We met, among others, the manageress of a motel close to the site, a dairy farmer, the owner of a vineyard, a primary school teacher, a lorry driver, mothers who have picketed the local office of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and a housewife who sat on the President's commission inquiring into the accident. The main purpose of the visit was to understand the significance of the accident to this local community, both at the time of the accident and now, and to find out whether there were any policy implications for Britain.

The story can be stated simply. No one we met suggested that the radiation emitted during the accident had any direct physical effects on people, animals, or plants. The area has developed since the accident. Business firms have expanded and new houses have been built. Property values have been well maintained and two large motels and an additional supermarket have opened. Angling and tourism flourish.

It is clear, however, that for many people the experience was traumatic and that psychological harm to individuals has occurred. The harm has been aggravated by a loss of credibility in the statements of the power company and, to some extent, of other authorities.

Everyone we met considered that the damaged reactor should be cleaned up. There is concern that the owners, a private enterprise

Emergency are not new phenomena in human affairs; epidemics, famines, floods and kidnappings all produce psychological damage. But a major lesson from Three Mile Island is that in such an emergency the more that people are told, and the better they understand the available information, the less the lasting damage will be.

What we have observed confirms the value of the emphasis in Britain on the preparation of an emergency plan for each nuclear station. It underlines, too, the responsibility of press, radio and television to disseminate information so that the seeing and listening public get straight facts rather than partial, hysterical stories which, though they make good headlines, are unlikely to help that public caught up in an emergency to help themselves.

**Glyn and Tania England**  
Glyn England is Chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board. Tania England is a Psychiatrist Social Worker.

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### An evocative evening with Princess Grace

Princess Grace of Monaco will make a rare appearance in Britain next week when she takes to the boards at the Festival Theatre, Chichester. She will read poetry and prose in a two-hour performance marking the start of the theatre's 21st anniversary celebrations.

The programme, *Evocations*, was devised by John Carroll, who has also compiled recital programmes for Lord Olivier and Dame Peggy Ashcroft. It has already been performed by Princess Grace at the Vienna Festival and in America.

John Carroll was put in touch with the princess a few years ago by a friend, her biographer Gwen Robyns. Another friend of Carroll's is Patrick Garland, Chichester's artistic director.

Peter Roberts, the secretary of Compassion in World Farming, fears there are some bad eggs about at Buckingham Palace. Alerted by the award of a royal warrant to the firm which makes regular deliveries of battery-laid eggs to the Palace, Roberts has now started sending the Queen two free-range eggs a day, intended for her breakfast.

As he says: "It is incredible that with 4,000 acres of royal farms they are unable to supply her with non-battery eggs." The free range eggs Roberts is sending come from Bodale School, where Princess Margaret's daughter, Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones, is a pupil.

### THE TIMES DIARY

The survival of the sparrow has been assured in Southwark. After three years' deliberation the borough council's general purposes and finance committee has decided to permit continued use of the cheerful but messy and lecherous bird as the council's symbol.

Southwark's sparrow was hatched by Michael Wolff, of the corporate design consultancy Wolff Olins, and nests on the covers of council agenda, guide book and annual reports. Pro- and anti-sparrow lobbies in the council cut across party lines, but the compromise now reached is that it can stay where it is, as long as it does not perch on official notepaper or municipal vehicles.

### Well said

Peter Watkins, the Ealing vicar who collects anecdotes from church records, has spared me another one. Madam Cresswell, a notorious procuress, bequeathed £10 for a funeral sermon on condition the preacher spoke nothing but well of her. The person obliged with the words: "All that I can say of her is that she was born well, married well, lived well and died well. She was born in Shadwell, lived in Clerkenwell and died in Brixton."

### Creamed off

The National Dairy Council does not have such a lot of bottle after all. The organization has just splashed £21m on converting the Football League Cup into the Milk Cup, but will shortly see its National Dairy Museum, outside Reading, expunged from the pages of *The Good Museums Guide* because insufficient money has been spent on it.

The National Dairy Museum is one of only nine to have been eliminated from the guide's new edition, to be published on March 25, because of failure to maintain sufficient standards. Kenneth Hudson, the editor, told PHS: "The museum has been starved of funds, and it shows. It has not been growing or developing, and just has not filled its potential. It is a disgrace to a big and prosperous industry."

### Testament

Colin Haycraft of Duckworth believes his must be the only publishing house to have won both Jewish and Christian prizes for religious books. Two years ago Bill Fishman's *East End Jewish Radicals* won the Jewish Chronicle award, and last year the church-bishop of Canterbury presented the Collins religious book prize to George Caird, Dean Ireland's Professor of Exegesis of Holy Scripture at Oxford, for *The Language and Imagery of the Bible*.

Good afternoon, this was your captain speaking...



### Fighting chance

Fearless Soviet pressmen have consumer-tested Moscow's new service-stations for private cars — and warn tourists to avoid them if possible. Two reporters made unannounced visits to the garages on behalf of the Soviet equivalent of the AA, the Fourwheel Club, pretending that their new Jag had needed attention. At one garage in Zelenograd the mechanics were too busy fighting. At another a girl petrol attendant screamed that she was fed up with hysterical customers. In Lyublinko the investigators found a husband and wife weeping in their Jag, having waited a day and a night to get their shattered windscreen replaced.

The reporters in *Nedelya* say improvements have been promised and bravely pledge: "We will be back."

### The chic of it

Sartorially David Steel, the Liberal leader, has the last laugh on critics who have been having a Highland ball mocking a photograph of him which appears in this month's *Scottish Pic*. There have been suggestions that his sporrans hung disgracefully low — and because the magazine reversed the picture — that he wore his kilt the wrong way round.

Now Steel has been named the most smartly dressed male MP in a poll organized by a firm of suit manufacturers. He scored 210 votes, compared with Sir Keith Joseph's 176 and David Owen's 121.

### China service

The Chinese may be about to learn some manners from British shop assistants. Reading that China's leaders were much disturbed by their nation's young shop workers, the organizers of the Shop Assistants of the Year competition sent an invitation to the finals, at the Cafe Royal today, to the Chinese embassy in London. To their delight it was promptly and politely accepted. Shao Li, a third secretary in the trade section, will attend and report whether the British have anything to contribute to the Socialist Ethics Month already announced by the party chairman, Hu Yaobang, as China's campaign against bad behaviour.

PHS

Corby's business  
No matter how big  
track records  
Corby's business  
first Enterprise Zone  
some areas  
in the future  
in the future  
When Enterprise  
been opened up  
of speculative  
construction  
companies are now



# Enterprise Zones

Ten of Britain's eleven enterprise zones are now operative, and the last is due to open next month. How are they faring, collectively and individually? What are their priorities and their prospects? How fair is the principle of selective assistance, and how does it affect the neighbours? Patrick O'Leary reports

## Less flannel and form-filling

It is a whim of politicians to conduct elaborate exercises to discover what everybody else knows already. Few people have ever doubted that businesses would be more prosperous and more adventurous if less of their profits disappeared in rates and taxes, and fewer of their initiatives ran into the sand of planning controls and the flannel of form-filling.

This has not prevented a great deal of excitement among both supporters and opponents being caused by the launching of enterprise zones. Yet the scheme is modest enough, the setting-out of a few square miles of development land of mixed value scattered throughout the country as sanctuaries in which there is a 10 year holiday from rates, from some taxes, and a wide range of planning controls.

Benefits beyond measurement

For enterprise zones surely owe something to the locomotive theory of economics, fashionable when Sir Geoffrey Howe first floated the idea in a speech four years ago. This school of thought believes that if a few engines of prosperity can get up steam, they will drag the heavy wagons of industry in general out of the slough of recession.

When the decade is over, it will almost certainly be found that the real fruits of the experiment are not those that can be seen and measured. If projections become facts, enterprise zones will create between 100,000 and 200,000 jobs; but nobody will know how many are new jobs, or merely jobs shuffled from one place to another, or jobs which

will vanish when the fiscal benefits dry up. Similar arguments will be heard about the millions of square feet of industrial and commercial premises produced.

What is already apparent is the change in attitudes of everyone involved and, to use the vogue word of the day, their expectations. Not least is this true of Sir Geoffrey Howe himself. We see the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who lectures the nation on the folly of pumping public money into job-creation, quietly siphoning off a little of it to recompense local authorities who forgo rates and the inland Revenue for lost taxes all to create employment.

It is moreover that hope of the Treasury, an open-ended commitment. The figure of £50m, has emerged, but views differ on whether this is a total or annual estimate, and those concerned admit that forecasting is almost meaningless.

Rate and capital investment relief on a hotel will be very different from the saving on a row of workshops for small start-up firms. Unusually, the fiscal carrots are offered indiscriminately to commercial as well as industrial development. Nor can anyone say what rates will cost in 1991, since they seem to be on an inflation course unrelated to any economic indicator. At local authority level, too, new thinking is apparent. Power is being delegated to enterprise zone officers on an unprecedented scale to negotiate deals with developers and tenants.

Councillors are shedding the image of men who wrangle for six months over the erection of a bicycle shed. Small committees decide in days the fate of plans by private investors involving tens of thousands of pounds. Often they do so in cooperation with neighbouring boroughs, or with their county councils, with which they may have been on acrimonious terms ever since local government was reorganized.

Pressure is also put on water boards, British Telecom, and gas and electricity companies to lay on services as swiftly as they can. It is this sense of urgency which marks out the zone philosophy from previous official schemes. The 10-year limit on benefits makes them a diminishing asset.

The revolution in attitudes is not complete, nor is the picture an even one throughout the country. Councils which loathe Mr Michael Heseltine — his Department of the Environment is responsible for the designation and oversight of zones — have not discarded their suspicions. In more than one zone you are told: "Of course he chose us because he wanted a success story before the next election."

### Businessmen have to adjust

In areas where most land is publicly owned, there is reluctance to sell it freehold to developers. Officials tell you this is because they want some safeguard against undesirable tenants, over and above the remaining restrictions relating to such matters as health, safety and pollution, who might put off prospective neighbours.

But it is just possible that their judgment is clouded by years spent acquiring land for their councils in the belief the civic centre knew best how to use it. It must be a bureaucratic nightmare, to drive a factory from an urban site with tight planning controls, and find its owner knocking on the door for premises with minimum restraint in a zone.

Businessmen themselves are having to adjust. Those who believed that slag heaps started at Pottery Bar find that even a slag heap has its attractions when it is levelled and in a rate-free haven. The scheme has quickened the pace at which pension funds and other institutional investors adjust their property portfolios to include industrial estates as well as office blocks.

Another side-effect is that British Rail and the Central Electricity Generating Board are releasing surplus land. Even private owners are looking hard at their use of sites and selling off plots formerly used only to store junk which needs to be cleared anyway.

Owners of existing business who find themselves near an enterprise zone, and perhaps competing with companies enjoying all its advantages, complain bitterly of such "Nezblight". One has spoken scornfully of zone companies being able to fly flags of convenience.

Warehouse owners have been lobbying hard for some relief for their grievances. There are also fears that unfair competition will damage the dozen or more areas which applied to have a zone and were refused, and that life will be made harder for the needy neighbours of councils that have them.

These are problems with any form of selective assistance. Since the special reliefs in the zones are additional to existing grants and loans under national, local and European legislation there is a real danger of producing a new form of welfare scrounger, this time among the bosses rather than the bossed.

It seems peculiarly illogical that firms are exempt from industrial training levies and regulations when every local authority wishes to attract new technology industries with highly skilled employees.

If in a few years this experiment in freedom of enterprise is seen to be successful, some hard choices will have to be made. There will be mounting pressure to designate more zones, to enlarge existing ones, and to prolong the period of benefits.

Certainly Ministers are taking the matter seriously. Mr Heseltine meets representatives of the zones every few weeks and, according to one participant, "if there are any grumbles he climbs in to get things unjammed very quickly".

### SPEKE

David Mowat, Liverpool City Council  
£68 small factories in the Speke EZ are well on the way to completion. 7

### CLYDEBANK

Paul Smith, Scottish Development Agency  
£Clydebank has nowhere to go but up. 7

### NEWCASTLE

Chris Hamner, Newcastle upon Tyne City Council  
£Our aim is not so much to create jobs, as to safeguard them for the future. 7

### GATESHEAD

Chris Smith, Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council  
£The Team Valley estate could be full up in three years. 9

### HARTLEPOOL

Eddie Morley, Hartlepool Borough Council  
£With 24 per cent male unemployment, jobs are our chief priority. 7

### BELFAST

Dennis Myers, Belfast Enterprise Zone  
£We hope to create 300 entirely new jobs in the first two years. 7

### WAKEFIELD

Roy Gregory, Wakefield Metropolitan District Council  
£We'll be substantially full within five years — I hope. 7

### CORBY

Fred McClenaghan, Corby District Council  
£A flying start. EZ status is only a part of what Corby offers. 9

### SWANSEA

Morris Howell, Swansea City Council  
£By the end of 1983 the bulk of the zone will be in plug-in state. 7

### SALFORD

Peter Henry, Salford City Council  
£This conurbation produces one quarter of the country's technicians. 9

### DUDLEY

Roger Latham, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council  
£The smaller sites are coming along quite nicely. 7

### TRAFFORD

Roger Dodsworth, Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council  
£The sky's the limit... the private sector's role is crucial. 9

### ISLE OF DOGS

Peter Turley, London Docklands Development Corp  
£The zone is already acting as a magnet. 7

### EZ concessions

Brain-children of Sir Geoffrey Howe, who introduced them in his Budget two years ago, enterprise zones are an experiment in the art of encouraging industry and commerce by the removal of certain taxes and the easing of planning controls. The main concessions, which run for ten years and apply to both new and existing companies, are:

- Exemption from Development Land Tax.
- Exemption from rates on industrial and commercial property.

- Corporation and Income Tax allowances of 100 per cent for capital expenditure on such buildings.

- Priority processing of applications for certain customs facilities.
- Exemption from industrial training levies.
- Relaxation of planning restrictions, and speedy decisions on those that remain.
- Reduction in Government demands for information.

The zones continue to benefit from whatever aid is available under other Government and EEC policies, such as those for inner cities.

# BIG PROBLEMS?

# BIGGER SOLUTIONS

# CORBY

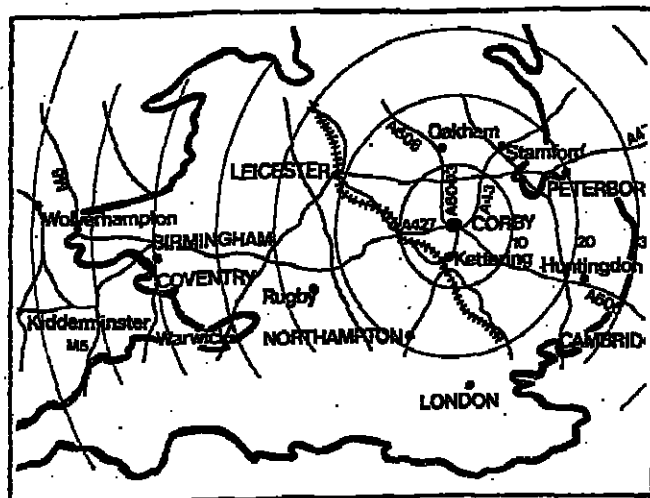
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For more information, send to Fred McClenaghan, Director of Industry, Corby Industrial Development Centre, Douglas House, Queens Square, Corby, Northants. Telephone: Corby 62571. Telex: 341543.

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Company: .....  
Position: .....  
Address: .....

**CORBY WORKS**



# FREE ZONE SPEKE

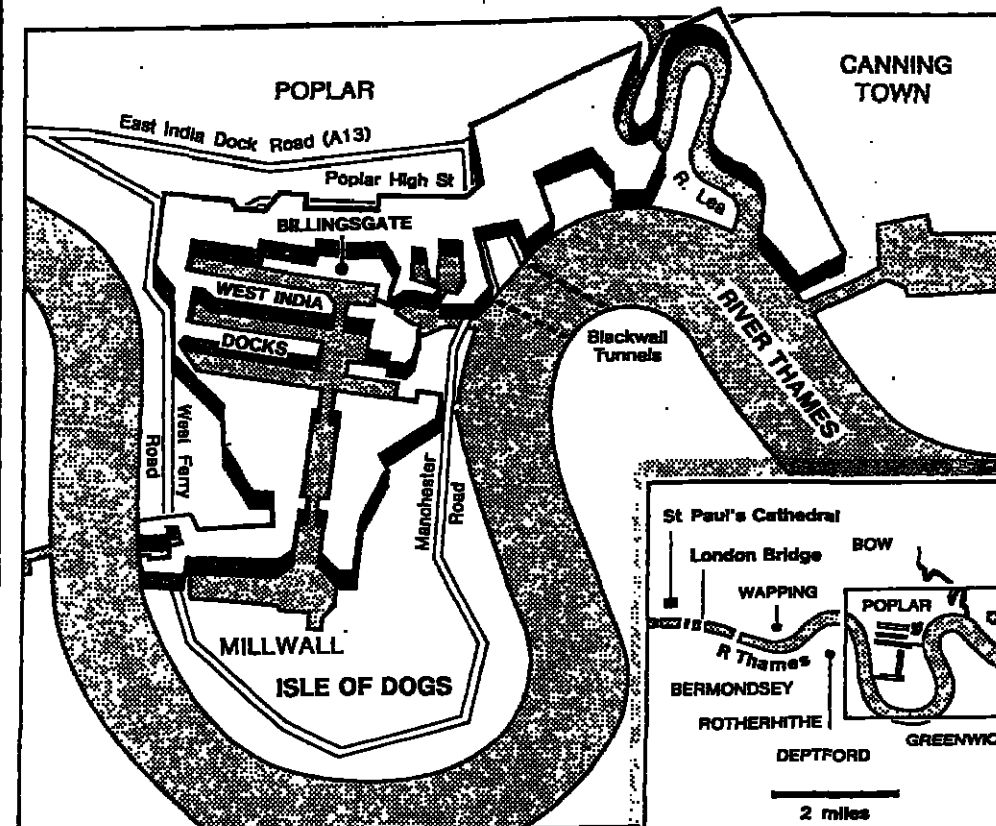


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**Yorkshire's Enterprise Zone**

## ENTERPRISE ZONES

Zone-by-zone report, compiled by Patrick O'Leary, Robert R. Rodwell, Jonathan Wills and Alan Grainge



### ISLE OF DOGS

#### Lure of the water

A flat site of roughly 480 acres with public utility services available in east London a few minutes drive from the City is calculated to quicken the pulse of any developer. But there are snags. More than 120 of those acres in the London enterprise zone are water. For this is part of dockland, in the Isle of Dogs. Most wharves are unused, except as a resting place for redundant barges. However, Mr Peter Turlik, director of industrial development for the London Docklands Development Corporation, is familiar with the problems of waterscaping. The EZ is only one-tenth of the area of run-down Thameside the corporation has been commissioned by the Government to regenerate. Filling in stretches of water would be too expensive and take too long for most firms wishing to take advantage of the zone's short-term fiscal privileges. But already there are schemes for building out over the docks on stilts, and some high-technology companies are attracted by the prospect of water-side premises and the seclusion they offer. A commercial television company intends to establish studios there. Ironically, Billingsgate Market, which moved to the Isle of Dogs in January, lies just outside the zone. Although the area is in the boroughs of Tower Hamlets and Newham, the docklands corporation has planning control. It owns about 60 per cent of land in the zone (the water is the responsibility of the Port of London Authority) and other substantial areas belong to British Rail

and the Central Electricity Generating Board. To retain some restraint on development, long leases of 200 or more years will be granted rather than the sale of land freehold. Tenants are already moving in, including start-up companies taking small premises in refurbished workshops, but the zone is not yet officially open. Mr Turlik hopes the necessary statutory processes will be completed in April, and says diplomatically that being last in the field of the 11 enterprise zones has given more time to take maximum advantage of the scheme. The corporation expects to see some office and perhaps home construction in the zone, and has already noted interesting development in other parts of the Isle of Dogs. Half the local residents travel to work outside the so-called Isle, which is in a loop of the Thames. Many of them could benefit from the 10,000 or 12,000 jobs officials hope will be produced over the next 10 years. "The zone acts as a magnet", Mr Turlik said; he pointed out that Greenwich lies on the other side of the loop, a view that should appeal to housebuilders. P.O.L.

### CORBY

#### A very special case

Corby's battery of financial inducements to incoming firms is so formidable that an accountant has been seconded to the town's development centre. He is there to help applicants to pick the best options, which include development area grants, steel closure aid from the EEC, and the advantages derived from new town status since 1950. It might be thought that

adding an enterprise zone was an unnecessary complication. In fact Corby was not on the original list of prospects for this privilege, but made its case to the Government, and the zone opened in June. Few would deny this village in the Northamptonshire countryside, which grew into a town of 52,000 inhabitants, was a special case. The basic employer, British Steel Corporation, shut half its plant nearly two years ago, making 5,500 steelmakers redundant, although the surviving tube production works remain the biggest local organization. You see why the development centre has a scoreboard which shows jobs created since 1980 and those "in the pipeline". When I read it the figures were a little over 1,000. The unemployment rate has been about 21 per cent for a year. Corby's EZ is in three parts. 109 acres lie on the eastern side of the Earlstreets industrial estate, which was in business before the extra incentives were introduced. The other sections of the zone are Weldon B (nearly 39 acres), and Weldon C (132 acres), both close to the steelworks. Mr Fred McClenaghan, director of industry, works for Corby District Council and the Commission for New Towns. He said they had disposed of 50 per cent of the land, most of it to companies building their own premises on freehold sites. The remainder consisted of advance factories leased from the commission, original owners of the land. Biggest project so far is the £25m investment by Associated British Foods in a flour mill and a food processing plant, both now under construction. The enterprise zone has made people more aware of Corby", Mr McClenaghan said, "but a lot of sites have been let outside the zone. Most have gone to manufacturing industry so far, but the service side is picking up. He expected all land in the three zone areas to be disposed of by the middle of next year, although building would not be completed then. It seems the new scheme has not depressed the value of land outside the zone. The tobacco manufacturer, B.A.T., has secured planning permission for a £22m factory and Oxford University Press has a warehouse on a site in southern Corby. There are plans for a leisure park on the outskirts of the town, and the disused steel plant is being cleared for development. P.O.L.

### BELFAST

#### Inner city in demand

Belfast's enterprise zone is in two parts — 323 acres of inner-city dereliction, delapidation and redundant mills in both the Shankill and Falls areas of west Belfast, and 190 acres of virgin land on the foreshore, most of which has been reclaimed from the sea in recent years. Although the latter area is largely without services it is commercially attractive; cheek-by-jowl with Belfast harbour, it has its own deep-water frontage and is bounded on its landward side by a motorway. Both parts are within two or three minutes of the city centre. Since the zone became operational in mid-October last year encouraging but distinctly different responses have been encountered in both areas, reports EZ manager Mr Denis Myles. "The demand for the inner-city area has come largely from already established, locally-owned companies wanting to expand into new premises but to remain within the walk-to-work radius of their existing workers, who mainly live in the inner suburbs," he says. The result is that four new factories are already being built on EZ land which was originally cleared for housing but was re-zoned for

industrial use in response to the city's dramatic fall in population over recent years. The largest new unit, 30,000 sq. ft. will be occupied by a manufacturer of architectural fittings and furnishings who plans to expand his present workforce of 90 to 125 when it is complete. There is a great deal of ready-for-use accommodation in the inner-city zone in the redundant textile mills, most of which are being sub-divided for light industrial use by their various private owners. "We have encountered very lively demand for small 'workshop' premises from various one-man to five-man bands in the EZ. Part of our task is to convince the mill owners that it is worth subdividing their properties into units as small as these", Myles says. The attractions of the foreshore have led to what he says is an "enormous" demand from the transport and distributive sectors. Already, two private property developers have leased sites from the freeholders, Belfast Harbour Commissioners, for speculative building of warehousing and light manufacturing premises totalling nearly 100,000 sq. ft. Apart from these developments, eight existing Belfast companies have leased sites varying from 7,000 sq ft to 70,000 sq ft and are funding their own new premises. Belfast's two-part EZ differs from most of those in mainland Britain in being managed and promoted by private enterprise contractors. The provincial Department of the Environment has contracted the task for three years to a joint team from Design Partnership. Operating from a large, shop-fronted, walk-in office provided by the Northern Ireland DOB right in the city centre, the management team is well placed for an active marketing role. R.R.R.

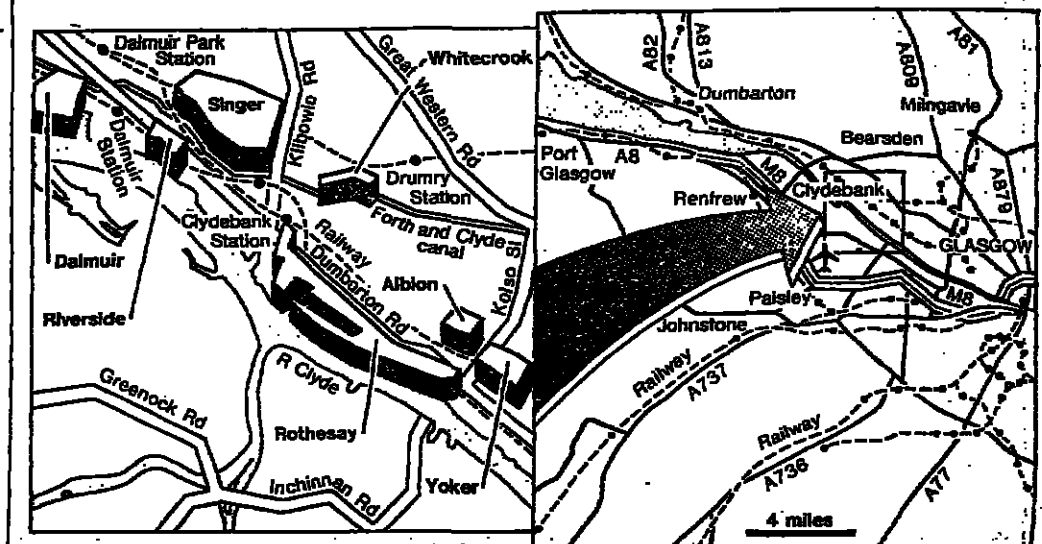
### CLYDEBANK

#### The only way out is up

"We are trying to work a miracle... All the companies that are going to go to the wall have gone to the wall, touch wood. There is nowhere to go but up..." Mr Paul Smith of the Scottish Development Agency comes from Oldham. He is only 31 and as usual he is talking about his favourite topic — the Clydebank enterprise zone. He talks about it in the highly persuasive, enthusiastic manner that has brought in dozens of companies over the past two years: so many in fact that there is now a waiting list for industrial sites in the zone. Eighty firms have arrived already and Paul Smith hoped to attract another 120. They are certainly needed. Clydebank lost more than 10,000 jobs in the disastrous years of the late 1970s. It was a two-horse town dying on its feet — shipbuilding was in decline and the giant Singer sewing machine factory eventually closed, leaving a huge derelict space in the centre of town. That gap is now well on the way to becoming the Clydebank Business Park. Yesterday the National Westminster Bank announced plans for a £1.25m office block on the site. Meanwhile an army of men is setting Clydebank to rights in one of the biggest environmental improvement campaigns ever seen in Scotland. J.W.

Everywhere bulldozers are clearing, trees are being planted, debris cleared away and those old buildings that have survived are being given a facelift. The place has to look good if people are to invest in it, says Mr Smith, and that is why the SDA is spending £5m just to tidy up the ravished townscape of Clydebank. Another £15m will be spent on development land industrial sites and advanced factories during the present four-year plan, in addition to what is being invested by the district and regional councils. Clydebank is once again bustling, cheerful and alive even if it will never be exactly beautiful. Being an EZ has a lot to do with it but the revival had got under way earlier and much of the groundwork had already been done, when the zone officially came into existence in August last year.

Curiously enough, Mr Smith says, the accelerated planning procedures of the enterprise zone have not been a major factor in persuading companies to come in. The local planning authority was so desperate for jobs that it would hardly have shackled a developer with unreasonable restrictions. What the zone does through its 10-year rates holidays" and 100 per cent tax relief on capital outlay is to provide an extra, and decisive layer of financial incentives. Clydebank is very far from the "free-fire zone" for unrestrained market forces that was originally envisaged. The philosophy is decidedly interventionist but that does not seem to cause any ideological worries for the industrialists who are now queuing up for the next 18 factory units due to be leased in April this year. J.W.



## Invest in the Tyneside Enterprise Zone - Vickers have

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Says Mr. Gerald Boxall, Chief Executive of Vickers Military Division "The decision to proceed immediately with this plan has been greatly helped by the Enterprise Zone and the benefits of this have been taken into account in deciding on this plan".

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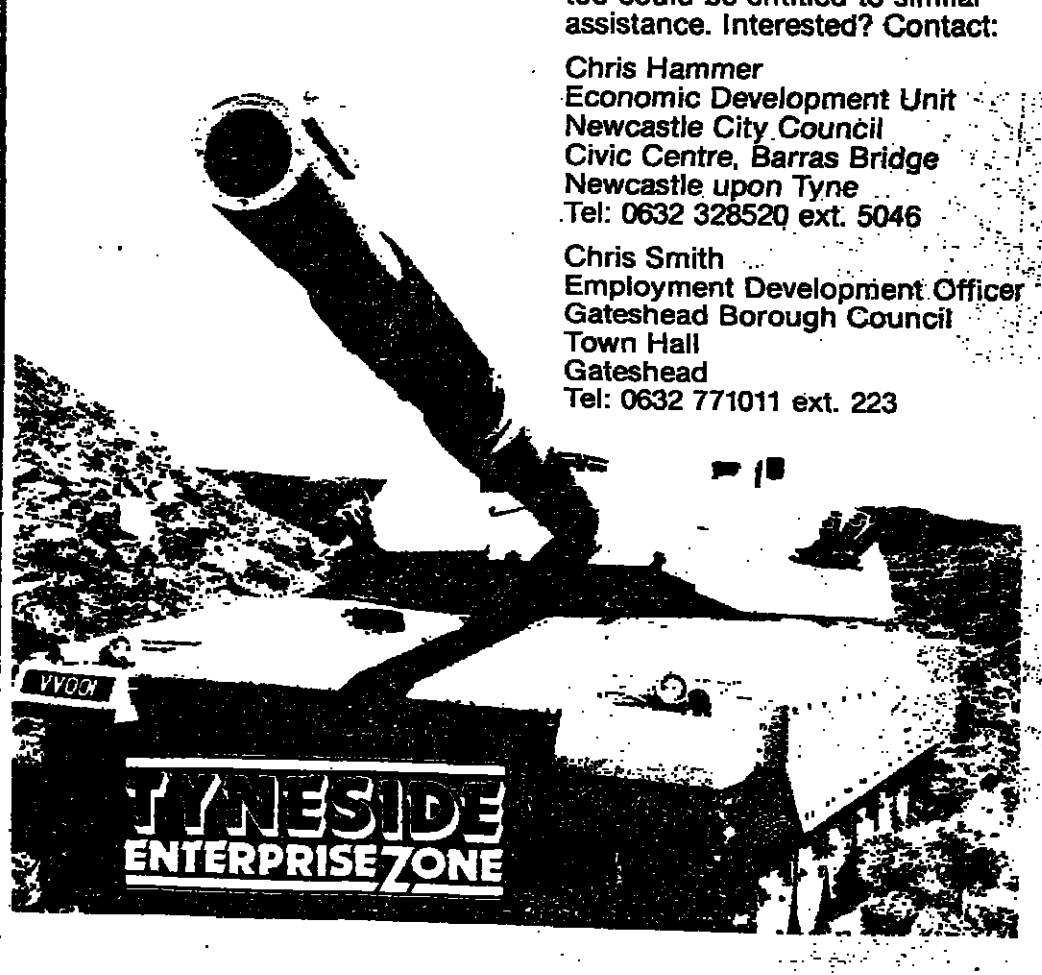
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Yours faithfully  
A. J. P. JONES

سكوت الامل

## ALONE, ALONE, ALL, ALL ALONE

Nobody in the West seems to realise how deeply the Afrikaners in South Africa are the prisoners of their own history. When the English took over from the Dutch nearly four centuries ago, there were already two Afrikaner republics in open rebellion. That sense of isolation from the outside world and particularly from Europe — a wilful, paranoid isolationism — has permeated Afrikanerdom ever since, with the Great Trek, the Transvaal Republic, the Boer War, and more particularly the assumption of unfettered power by the Nationalist Party in 1948. Afrikaners lay claim to a European heritage but this isolationism, created by them and cultivated all too often as an instrument to preserve their own parochial unity, has hardened to a point where they are now convinced that the outside world will always be set against them.

It is in this historical context that the two latest developments within the republic must be measured. Within the Afrikaner laager, there have been previous struggles between those with a world view, and those whose vision is blinkered by the stockade. Each time the split has occurred it has been the hardliners who have ultimately prevailed. Unity is to the essence of the Afrikaner mentality and his history has shown him how damaging it has been to be disunited. Thus a fundamentally decent people has been brought step by step to a point of history where, in the name of unity, it is being asked again and again to maintain policies which must be deeply troubling to the Calvinist conscience which lurks at the back of the Afrikaner mind. It is an uneasy people, and its sense of isolation from the Christian world must be made even worse by the daily reminder that it has to behave as a people wholly without a conscience.

Mr Botha, the Prime Minister, is now faced with two new challenges from opposing quarters. His leadership of the Nationalist Party is based on its traditional procedures. Afrikaners may deny the elementary techniques of democracy to their black and coloured fellow citizens; but within their own laager they are intensely democratic. Mr Botha started his premiership apparently intent on bringing South Africa out of its laager, and providing a new settlement for the country and its races, which would end the short of any European notion of democracy but might, say, on the Brazilian model, provide a constitutional structure which could preserve the

country's prosperity and accommodate some of the racial tensions which otherwise threaten to engulf it. Perhaps he felt initially he could, by political persuasion, carry his party with him to accept some concept of power-sharing in a central parliament between whites, coloureds and Indians, while blacks were left to their own devices in the neutered homelands such as the Transkei and KwaZulu. It is now clear, with the expulsion of 16 of his right-wingers, led by Mr Treurnicht, that Mr Botha's chosen way forward is threatened from within.

The idea of maintaining control over a process which in itself would be quite revolutionary for white South Africans, is also threatened from without. The merger of Natal, one of South Africa's four white-run provinces, with the black tribal homeland of KwaZulu will be recommended later this week in a report set up under the aegis of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the leader of KwaZulu. It will postulate a single province combining multi-racial and power-sharing elements which have always been anathema to the nationalists whose concept of separate development for all races has been the governmental orthodoxy since 1948. That concept has already been actively vitiated by the effect of economic growth which has meant advancement for all races. The simple certainties of the veldt are no more. The Afrikaners, whose guiding philosophy used to be fundamentally authoritarian and agrarian, have now been seduced by the scientific and technological age in which their country, with its whole population, is profiting, and has to profit to survive.

Mr Botha is thus faced with a dilemma. He can try to reassert control within the Afrikaner party and press on with his plan to lead his party out of the laager; or he can succumb to the atavistic forces which have so often triumphed before. There is a new spirit among many Afrikaners which stands now in his favour, and may even enable him to do business with South Africa's other communities on the basis of the Buthelezi Report. When Buthelezi recently spoke at that cradle of Afrikanerdom, the Stellenbosch University, he received a standing ovation seldom accorded to white politicians.

The tragedy of Mr Botha's technique is that, because he is himself a creature of the Afrikaner machine, he still appears to think it is necessary to keep control of these

volatile processes entirely in Afrikaner hands. South Africa is in a classic pre-revolutionary phase, but its pace of change may still be longer than the outside world expects. If Mr Botha still intends to pursue an objective which would, essentially, dismantle the 35-year-old structure of apartheid — while pretending to maintain its ideological purity — he can only expect to do so with a broader base of support than that available to him among Nationalist party loyalists.

That support may be there, but it will depend on the considered and constructive reactions of the outside world. The global response to the cricket controversy has been out of all proportion to its historical significance, which is not great. It is essential that the outside world helps to save Afrikaners from their fate, and isolating them will only make bloodshed in South Africa inevitable. It is not enough for Christendom to stand on the sidelines and insist that Mr Botha must lead the republic into the promised land of universal franchise and multi-racialism, and to state that, until he does, he will receive no further encouragement on the way. That attitude blithely ignores the realities of power both within South Africa and within the continent as a whole. The white citadel is still intact. The economic and military power of the Afrikaner machine is not yet seriously threatened by the forces of African nationalism, nor will it be in the foreseeable future.

However, South Africa's critics have a duty not just to criticize but to encourage those moves which help to lead Afrikaners out of their trap. Perhaps the Buthelezi Commission points the way; perhaps a more fruitful dialogue could be encouraged with the Cape Coloureds; perhaps the republic can return to the structure of 1910 when the Act of Union was based on a form of federalism with a common voting roll in the Cape, and different arrangements for different needs in the other provinces. There are many permutations, but the underlying objective must be to dismantle the inhuman apparatus erected over South Africans of all races since 1948. If the outside world can see that Mr Botha is moving, however tentatively and indirectly, towards that kind of objective, he should be helped to do so. We have our racial problems too, just on a lesser scale. We are not holier than Mr Botha; we are merely luckier.

## THE PLACE OF THE PAPACY

Enough is now known of the yet to be published final report by the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission for it to be said that the document is a worthy conclusion to the commission's labours. Its subject matter is several aspects of the institution of the papacy concerning which the commission was not able to find common ground in its earlier statement on authority in the church. It has now disposed of its difficulties so far as to be able to conclude that the time is ripe to establish a new relationship between the two churches as the next step towards unity.

To have thrown a bridge over that historical chasm is a remarkable achievement on the part of the churchmen and scholars who sit on the commission, proof of the benevolence that informs inter-church relations nowadays, and a credit to the technique of ecumenical theology.

The technique is to hoist disputed questions on to a new plane of discourse. As that is done the old vocabulary, charged with the current of controversies past or present, drops away. Thus the good old four-letter word "Pope" disappears from view, its place taken by the vaguely Darwinian figure of the Universal Primate who may be conveniently situated in Rome. "Infallibility", another battle-scarred veteran, is retired in favour of the less provocative "preservation from error".

Meanwhile it is the way of ecumenical theology to introduce fresh concepts preferably in the form of neologisms having an antique ring. In this context the key term is *koinonia*, a word taken from the New Testament for which no translation is attempted (communion, fellowship, solidarity). *Koinonia* is the mark of the local churches from apostolic times onwards in respect of their members' relations to one another. It is also the mark of wider ecclesial organization in respect of the local

churches' mutual relations, in hierarchical ascent until the Universal Primate is reached, who is seen not as ruler of the church but as a sign and instrument of its visible *koinonia*.

This method of proceeding depends a good deal on the charity of the participants and on a predisposition to agree. It is an erenic transaction which nevertheless has its casualties. One of those casualties is history. What has happened in the alembic of these studies to the doctrine of papal primacy based on a divine commission to the successors of St Peter to uphold the fidelity of the church on earth?

What has happened to those tremendous claims promulgated at the first Vatican Council to the accompaniment of an electrical storm of such grandeur as to convince the superstitious that they were witnessing a supernatural comment on the event? True the definitions of the first Vatican Council have been balanced by the brimstones of the second, which place the exercise of papal authority in a constitutional framework of councils and synods. And of course the definition of infallibility was prudently qualified in such a way that almost no papal pronouncement past or future can be identified infallibly as infallible. Nevertheless the papal claims are still extant as written in 1870; and however limited in its practical effect, the attribute of infallibility deeply dyes the image of the papacy in the vision of adherent and sceptic alike.

What has happened, too, to the Tudor monarchs' repudiation of papal jurisdiction which for centuries governed the prejudices of Englishmen and shaped the history of the English church and state, free from all exterior jurisdiction until in the hour of our decline we thankfully embraced the legislative and juridical apparatus associated with Brussels?

No echo of these great acts and long habits of history, which still reverberate in

living minds, is audible from the texts of the joint theological commission. There the papacy assumes an angelic pallor which those favourably and unfavourably disposed towards it will alike have difficulty in recognizing, and which the comportment of the present Pope belies.

Among Anglicans and other Protestant churchmen the commission's statement may be received as a description of how many of them, and some Roman Catholics, would like the primacy of Rome to function. They will have difficulty in believing that it conveys a reliable portrait of what that primacy has been or what it now is. Roman Catholics may find reflected in the commission's minimalist post-conciliar view of the role of the papacy, one which might have to be accepted for the purpose of repairing earlier schisms, but one which neither Rome nor the generality of its faithful is yet prepared for.

Before the ground uncovered by the joint theological commission becomes ground on which the two churches may corporately stand together one of two things must happen. Either the Roman tara must undergo a transformation comparable to the process of constitutional abnegation the English crown underwent during the reigns of, say, Henry VII and Queen Victoria — though it might not take quite so long in these accelerated times. Or Romans and Anglicans must embrace one formula for the primacy reserving to themselves alternative and incompatible versions of what it signifies. That would not be conducive to truth.

But if the commission has not, as it hopes, marked out a further stage on the road to corporate reunion, its work beautifully exemplifies and advances that courtesy, charity and respect between Christians of different denominations, which to many minds is the sweetest fruit of the ecumenical movement.

## A challenging way with trial juries

From Mr Neil Denison, QC, and others

Sir, We regret that the correspondence on juries, started by his Honour Gilbert Leslie (February 27) and continued by Mr Jonah Walker-Smith (March 1), has not been pursued. There are important matters to be considered about juries, their composition and selection. We wish to make four points:

1. No one has advanced a valid reason for depriving a defendant of his right of peremptory challenge.
2. If counsel, without instructions from their clients, are using the clients' peremptory rights in order to remove the intelligent merely because they are intelligent, that is to be deplored — but it is no reason for depriving the defendants of their rights.
3. If peremptory challenges are abolished, our present rules as to challenges for cause will have to be expanded and we will move inevitably to the American system of jury selection, which is to be avoided.
4. The present rules as to eligibility for and disqualification from jury service are wrong and are not properly monitored or enforced. School leavers, the young, employed or unemployed, of 19 have insufficient experience of life to try those accused of crime, but that is what happens now. Proved criminals who, by their records, are presently disqualified are able to do and do serve on juries: some proved criminals are not disqualified and, of course, they also serve. We do not believe that this state of affairs is tolerable.

If there are sensible reforms as to jury eligibility and qualification we believe that many of the present anxieties about juries would disappear.

Yours faithfully,  
NEIL DENISON,  
RICHARD ANN,  
MICHAEL HILL,  
JOHN MARRIAGE,  
3 Temple Gardens, E.C.4,  
March 6.

From Mr R. P. Dore, FBA  
Sir, How can Harry Judge (article, February 24) be so unreservedly pleased at the prospect that before long, with the exception of minor royalty and a handful of millionaire children, applicants will have to be bright to get into Oxford? I agree with him, in some ways, that the final victory of meritocracy is inevitable, and that we need elite universities.

Our tragedy is that, unlike countries which have serious places like the *grandes écoles* or Tokyo University, purpose-built for intellectual elite, we have to make do with a conversion job. An Oxford which has specialized for so long in maintaining the traditions of aristocratic *homo ludens* and gentryifying the bourgeoisie just cannot stop itself doing the same job on the new material. The Oxford of the splendid at producing politicians with leadership and civil servants with judgment, but is damnably bad at producing effective technocrats. Ten years ago its professor of engineering wrote to the *Times* explicitly to disclaim the study of engineering at Oxford had practical vocational intentions. Its purpose was, he claimed, educational!

De-industrializing, non-competitive Britain can surely at least demand that the teachers of the young think of the country in such facile dichotomies as that. A compulsory reading for all Oxford dons of Martin Wiener's illuminating and subtle *English Culture and the Decline of the Industrial Spirit* might not be a bad idea.

It is surprising, too, that the Harry Judge, who has written so eloquently about the way examination ruins secondary school education, should not be aware of a side consequence of the onset of meritocracy. If entry into Oxford becomes a sure badge of brains, Oxford graduates will become even more highly prized in the job market. The cash advantages of being an Oxford graduate will increase. The Oxford will become even more glittering. Preparation for that examination will dominate more sixth forms more comprehensively. The more widespread and intense the coaching, the more efficient the more efficient its selective power and the more aware the public at large becomes that those who succeed in it are really the *crème de la crème*. So the job market advantages of graduates become even greater.

In this way the vicious spiral of the dilemma disease will proceed. We shall have an education which was about preserving social status to an education which is about getting jobs without ever developing a tradition of educating people to do jobs with zest and efficiency.

Yours, etc  
RONALD DORE,  
157 Surrenden Road,  
Brighton,  
February 27.

## The Pope and Islam

From Shaikh Mubarak Ahmad

Sir, Your editorial "The Pope and Islam" (March 1) should be well received in the Muslim world. You rightly pointed out that there is no papacy in Islam. No Muslim religious leader, no matter how highly he may be acclaimed by his followers, can have the pretence of infallibility nor can he alter any doctrine of "Sharia" — the Law. Even Prophet Muhammad, on whom peace, was subject to the dictates of the Holy Quran. Moreover Islam does not impose any intermediary between man and God. However, despite these

## Case for an expansionary Budget

From Professor Lord Kaldor, FBA

Sir, In your leader today (March 6) you say that "the last time we had growth above 4 per cent was in 1973. That led to the inflationary explosion of 1974 from which we have been trying to recover ever since."

This is bad history and bad economics. The price explosion of 1974 had nothing to do with the increase in national output in the previous year. It was due, first, to the fourfold rise in the oil price, following on the Yom Kippur war, and second, to the unfortunate consequences of "Stage 3" of the Heath Government's statutory incomes policy, which imposed an obligation on all employers to raise wages in line with prices once prices rose by more than 7 per cent above the October, 1973, level.

But for these legally entrenched "threshold" agreements, which started to trigger monthly from April onwards, the rise in both wages and prices in the course of 1974 would have been only half as large, which means inflation would have been 10-15 per cent lower. The rest of the price explosion was in line with all other Western industrial countries and was the direct result of the fourfold rise in the oil price.

This had nothing to do with the Heath-Barber programme of expansion; it would have occurred in much the same way even if United Kingdom production in 1973 had been stagnant or falling. Equally, the unrequited gallop of wages and prices resulting from the threshold agreements had at best only a faint connexion with the production performance of the Barber years. On account of the steep rise of world food prices and of raw material prices in the course of 1972 the cost of living

would have risen in much the same way irrespective of whether Mr Barber or Sir Geoffrey Howe had drafted the April, 1973, Budget.

At the moment our production is at least 20 per cent below our enlarged productive potential including North Sea oil. This means that at current prices the shortfall in our national income is of the order of £40bn or more. Unless we succeed in increasing the GDP by 5 per cent a year we have no hope of liquidating the present mass unemployment.

In the light of this, Mr Shore's proposals could not by any means be regarded as excessive; they are far smaller proportionately than what we could and would accomplish if it came to a war.

Your worries and hesitations are due to the fear that the increase in spending will not lead to a reactivation of idle resources but will be dissipated in increased wages and prices. If so, the patriotic course is not to retreat into continued deflation and stagnation but to couple the advocacy of an ambitious recovery programme with the demand that wages and prices be prevented from rising. The nation has every right to demand both from the trade unions and from the Federation of employers to accept legally binding restraints on wages and prices as an essential *quid pro quo* for a new deal which restores the country to full employment prosperity.

The Thatcher alternative of keeping the rate of unemployment at three million unemployed and the threat of many more is politically unviable and morally intolerable.

Yours faithfully,  
NICHOLAS KALDOR,  
King's College,  
Cambridge,  
March 6.

## Venture capital

From Mr Martin Hodson

Sir, I wholeheartedly endorse the thoughts of your correspondent, Mr L. Lee (February 25) on the need for bolder moves to accelerate the rate of establishment of new enterprises.

In the United States there is a thriving venture capital market which fuels the entrepreneur, enables them to translate imagination and ideas into reality. The capital is contributed by people and organisations who know that they are backing a scheme to achieve a capital gain and that there is a risk of total loss of their investment. Almost invariably the capital injection required is made by way of minority equity stake and not loan, since experience and intelligence tell the investor that a burden of debt considerably lessens the prospects for success of a new venture.

The Government guarantee scheme leaves the critical task of project evaluation in the wrong hands. The major clearing banks have shown themselves time and again to have no expertise in coping with innovative proposals. Their lending decisions are still made by a tiny old guard of principles of security, "track record" and suspicion of untested ideas.

The City, geared as it is to manipulation of massive funds, is only just learning how to deal with smaller business needs. A few lightly funded venture capitalists are being established, but they complain that the deals do not come to them. This is because the lines of communication have not been opened.

As the clearers turn in another round of record profits, the prospect of a wealthy taxpayer inevitably comes to mind. If the Chancellor does confiscate these unearned gains, the Government should use the proceeds to establish a venture capital fund. The fund should be administered not by traditional list bankers but by a mixture of lively financiers and people with experience of conceiving and establishing their own business.

Yours truly,  
MARTIN HODSON,  
89 Chiswick High Road, W4.

## Compulsory service

From Mr John Lee, MP for Nelson and Colne (Conservative)

Sir, It is a pity that your thought-provoking and impatient leader, "Your country needs you" (February 27), was not published nearer the end of this Government's term of office. One could then, with lower levels of youth unemployment and in a less politically charged atmosphere, look more objectively at the whole question of youth and youth service.

During these last two years a number of my colleagues at Westminster have produced schemes and suggestions in this sphere. In a debate in July, 1980, on young persons I myself advocated a three-year "Young Britons" scheme requiring a national commitment, suggesting that it should be launched under the aegis of someone like HRH the Prince of Wales.

The basis of my scheme, which I envisaged as a voluntary one, was that the first year should consist of basic military training with limited annual training thereafter on lines operated so successfully by the Swiss. Year two should be one of community involvement with a range of choices, embracing the fire and ambulance services, mental hospitals, old people's homes, and especially a new civil defence body. The third year would cover the primary stages of industrial or craft training.

## Future policy on railway investment

From Mr J. M. Dennes

Sir, The Government has, no doubt for its own good reasons, eschewed involvement to date in the dispute between British Railways and Aslef; but as that dispute follows its predictable course to arbitration before the Railway State National Tribunal, it is not high time the Government emerged from its silence and declared in unambiguous terms its future policy on investment in the railway system?

If that policy is for no substantial investment schemes without modernization of working practices (including flexible rostering for train drivers) and for a gradual run-down of the system if those conditions are not fulfilled, it should be made abundantly clear to all concerned — including Lord McCarthy — that this is the background against which the arbitration takes place.

Surely it is a matter of fundamental national importance that the issue which lies at the heart of the dispute should not be fudged the second time round.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,  
J. M. DENNES,  
Flatagon House,  
31-33 Fenchurch Street, EC3,  
March 5.

## Poets' corner

From Mrs K. M. Adams

Sir, Does one have to be an "old reprobate" to command the attention of the media? I was fascinated by the size of the photograph as well as of the article accompanying it (March 2) of the unveiling of a memorial stone in Westminster Abbey to Dylan Thomas. Considerable attention had also been given on BBC and ITV television news on the previous evening.

When the George Eliot Fellowship unveiled a stone to George Eliot in Poets' Corner nearly two years ago, we had the greatest difficulty in raising any interest at all in the national dailies, and only one Sunday paper printed a small photograph of our vice-president, Gabriel Woolf, reading at the stone. Neither radio nor television news could be persuaded to give us a mention, let alone the sort of coverage given to Dylan Thomas.

When I read of flashbulbs popping in the Abbey on St. David's Day and of television cameras jockeying for position, I am puzzled by what it takes to be noticed. George Eliot did not, exactly lead a life of utter respectability, but how much less respectable would she have had to have been to merit the sort of attention now given to Dylan Thomas?

Yours faithfully,  
KATELEEN ADAMS, Secretary,  
The George Eliot Fellowship,  
71 Stepping Stones Road,  
Coventry.

## Enduring Latin

From Mr Victor Watts

Sir, Mr Carswell, in drawing attention in today's letters (February 25) to the appearance of the first two fascicles of the British Academy's magnificent *Monograph of Medieval Latin*, alludes to costs of production. Well he might. Fascicle I costs £16.50, Fascicle II £76, an increase of well over 400 per cent (at which rate the last fascicle would cost over £3m!) effectively ruling out subscription by individual scholars. This is a tragic consequence for what promises to be a wonderful research tool and one of the great dictionaries.

Is it quite beyond the Academy to subsidise its publication so effectively as to make it possible for individuals as well as institutions (and a declining number of these, one suspects) to purchase? Latin will no doubt endure and the tools are now to hand with which to anatomise the corpse: the trouble is, one won't be able to afford them.

Yours faithfully,  
VICTOR WATTS,  
Billy Hill House, Crook,  
Co. Durham.

## Place for pleasure

From Miss Linda James and others

Sir, After a violent attack on the architecture of the Barbican Arts Centre, Roderick Gradidge (March 3) writes that "it is going to work and work well." ... which is more than can be said for the National Theatre. This last is nonsense. What chiefly worries Mr Gradidge is that 1960s civic architecture ignores "the simple architecture of the ordinary people". As ushers at the National Theatre in constant contact with thousands of "ordinary people" each night, we can reassure him that there is enormous "simple enjoyment" both of the building and its product.

Yours etc,  
LINDA JAMES, J. PLUMMER,  
TIM GOODWIN, M. FRY,  
NICHOLAS FLOYD HUGHES,  
DEVYA PALMER, TOBY M. RADFORD,  
HARRY PARKINSON, JOHN FRY,  
A. O. MARS, PETER CROW,  
ROSAMONDE BATTON

## Rhapsodies of the road

From Mr Norman Donaldson

Sir, In his review of the Dornford Yates biography (March 4) Mr Ratcliffe suggests that Mercer "was perhaps the first popular poet of the motor car."

Surely this title belongs irrevocably to Mr. Road, whose chronicles were first published in 1906? Poop-poop, Sir,  
NORMAN DONALDSON,  
16 Chichele Road,  
Oxford, Surrey.

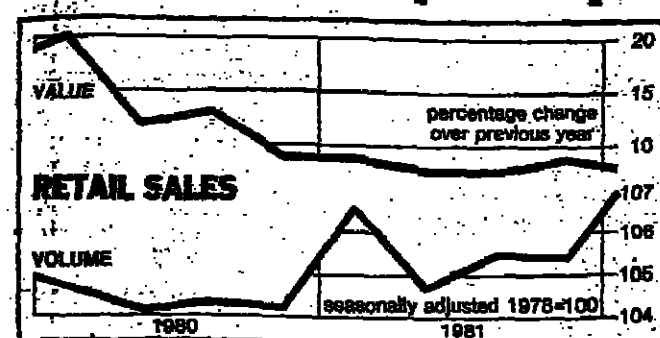






## BUSINESS NEWS

## Retail sales up 2.3 pc



Retail sales, jumped by 2.3 per cent in January, the Department of Trade confirmed yesterday, reflecting the growing importance of post-Christmas sales. A similar jump was recorded last year. Over the three months to January, however, sales were down 1/2 per cent on the previous three months. A drop in business done by food retailers and non-food retailers was partly offset by an increase in sales by mixed retail business.

## BA studies crisis report

British Airways, which will lose around £200m this year, starts a series of board meetings today when the main topic will be a 500-page report on the airline by City accountants Price Waterhouse. The meetings are expected to cover a period of at least 48 hours. A BA spokesman said last night it was "entirely reasonable" to assume that "changes, if not resignations" would come.

## Tin decision today

Tin producers and consumers will decide today whether to call up more funds with which to support sagging tin prices. Sources to the International Tin Council said. Consumer and producer members of the ITC started their two-day meeting in London yesterday. Opposition to export controls voiced by consumers was accepted by the ITC. Producers members may propose that the ITC call upon the United States to stop sales from its tin stockpile.

## Poland 'will meet debt deadline'

Bank Handlowy said in Warsaw that Poland would pay outstanding interest on its 1981 debt by the new deadline of March 26. It denied Poland failed to honour and undertake to meet an earlier deadline.

Mr Jan Woloszyński, first vice-president of the bank, said technical difficulties prevented concluding interest payments by the deadline last month.

## Clydebank boost

The National Westminster Bank is building a £125m four-storey office block on the site of the former Glasgow and London Marine Engineering Works in Clydebank. The new office block is expected to be ready for business next year.

## MARKET SUMMARY

## Budget hopes lift equities

## LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 564.1 up 3.4  
FT 100 Index 85.56 up 0.20  
FT All Share 324.95 up 1.92  
Bargains 27,069

Equities rose in most sectors yesterday, particularly those likely to benefit from today's Budget.

Builders were a notable feature, led by Bovis Lend Lease, up 15p to 37 1/2p on hopes of cheaper mortgages and a revival in the housing market.

Gifts improved on American money supply figures and hopes that cuts in prime rates would bring reductions here. Long dates closed up 2 1/2p with shorts showing gains of 2 1/2p.

Most leading shares rose by 4p to 10p in substance. The FT 100 rose 3 1/2p to 85.56, the FT All Share 1 1/2p to 324.95, and the FT 100 Index 0.20p to 85.56.

Midlands shoe manufacturer David Scott was 4p better at 21p. After stockholders' meeting, it picked up 500,000 shares at 21 1/2p for what was believed to be another shoe company.

Building materials groups benefited from Budget expectations and hopes that local council spending on construction would be increased.

## CURRENCIES

The pound closed well down on Continental currencies after sharp falls late Friday in New York, on expectations of lower United Kingdom interest rates.

London Close  
Sterling - \$1.3250 down 135 points  
Index 80.2 down 0.9  
DM 1.2800  
FF 10.9400  
Yen 427.50  
DOLLAR  
Index 112.0 down 0.2  
DM 2.3400 down 42pts  
GOLD  
\$326.50 down \$15.75

## TODAY

Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, makes his fourth Budget statement, 3.30 pm. British Association annual dinner, Savoy Hotel, London. Central government transactions, including borrowing requirements (February), provisional estimate of money supply (mid-February); London clearing banks' monthly supply (mid-February); London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-February); provisional figures for vehicle production (February).  
Board meetings: Interim: Ayr, Bann, Fletcher Challenge, London and Strathclyde Trust, Finance, Compton Group, De Beers, S-W Farmer, Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Philips Lamps, Robinson Bros (Ryders Green), Wertheim NV, Woodhouse and Ribson.

## Department of Trade orders Euroflame investigation

Euroflame, the log-burning stove group brought to the Unlisted Securities Market by King Hall Securities a year ago and whose forecast profits turned out to be substantial losses, is now the subject of a Department of Trade inquiry.

Dealing in the group's shares placed at 30p and suspended at 8p a month ago is currently the subject of a Stock Exchange investigation. It is understood the exchange had set today as the deadline by which stock-

brokers must declare their Euroflame share dealings. The Exchange has already completed an inquiry into the group after the substantial deficit which was announced on New Year's Eve. At that time, the company said a detailed accountants report had been ordered into its affairs.

That report has been shown to the Stock Exchange and it is believed to form the basis for the Department of Trade to appoint inspectors

By Philip Robinson  
under Section 165(b) of the 1948 Companies Act.

That section of the Act empowers Mr John Biffen the Trade Secretary to appoint inspectors if he has information which suggests that the company's shareholders have not been given all the information which they might expect, or if the business is being conducted with intent to defraud creditors; or if the people concerned with a company's

formation or management have been guilty of fraud, "misfeasance or other misconduct" towards the company or its shareholders.

The Department has appointed Mr Reginald Day and Mr Robert Saunders both members of its Internal Companies Investigation Branch, to conduct what will be the first probe into a company floated on the Unlisted Securities Market. Internal appointments of this kind are not unusual on an investigation into a small company and a report is expected within six months.

## Creditor's petition rocks De Lorean

From Robert Rodwell in Belfast

Hopes for a successful rescue of the Government-backed De Lorean sports car project plunged in Belfast yesterday after two blows.

It became known that one of De Lorean's many creditors had filed a petition for its compulsory winding up with the Northern Ireland High Court. De Lorean Motor Cars, the Belfast production subsidiary, is operating at a very reduced level under the joint voluntary receivership of Sir Kenneth Clark and Mr Paul Shewell while the American parent, the De Lorean Motor Company, seeks new backers.

At the same time the Northern Ireland Development Agency (NIDA) announced that a receiver has been appointed to C.P. Trim, a joint venture which the agency launched in January 1980, with De Lorean and the Northern-based Chamberlain Phipps group to manufacture car seats and other vehicle trim.

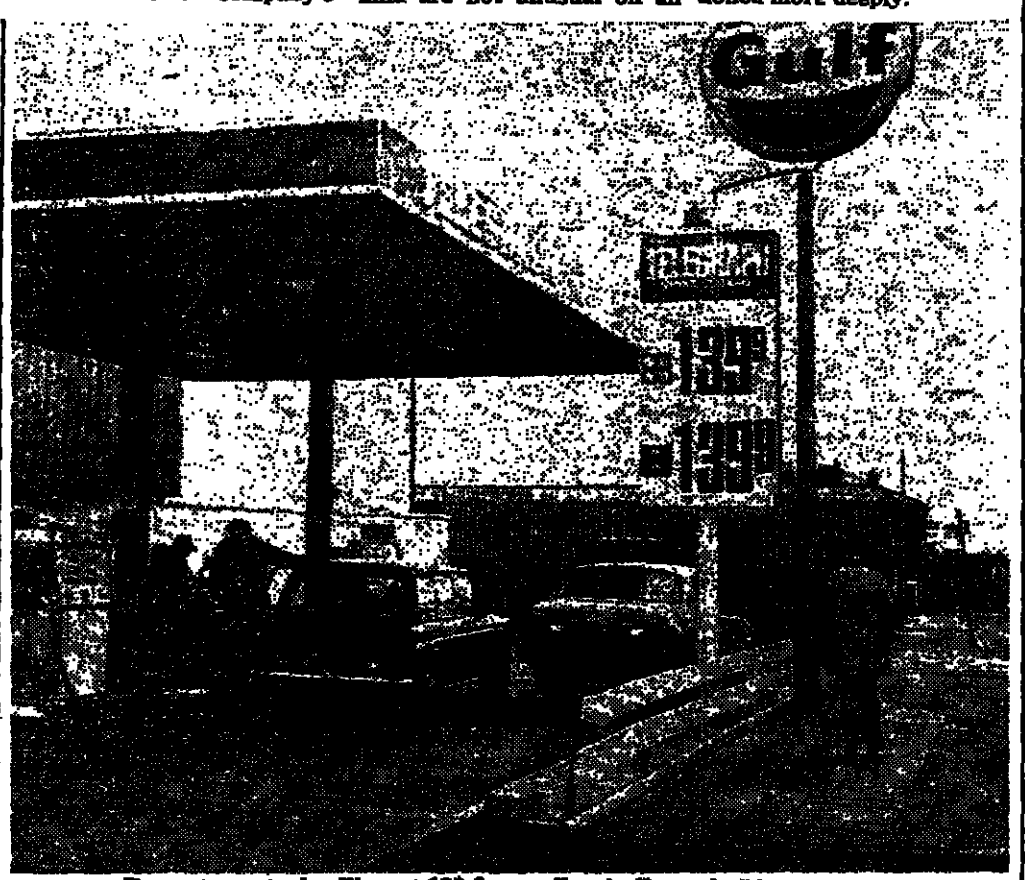
C.P. Trim is the first of De Lorean's 153 Ulster creditors to go into receivership.

News of the winding up petition caused gloom among the Ulster creditors.

"We are pleased it is not an Ulster company making the work of the receiver more difficult, for this would be contrary to our avowed aim of keeping De Lorean in operation as the best hope of recovering the debts owed to us," Mr Michael Stevens, spokesman for the local creditors' joint action committee, said.

On the receivership of C.P. Trim, Mr Stevens said that he regarded this as ominous too. "It is exactly what we warned the Government would happen to many local companies when the Northern Ireland Office refused any special assistance," he said.

The ownership of C.P. Trim is divided between the NIDA, with 32 per cent, De Lorean with 32 per cent and Chamberlain Phipps with 19 per cent. Directors are meeting the development agency today to put forward proposals for continuing with a reduced operation with only 70 employees and diversifying production line. If the NIDA agrees to support it a further £150,000 of private backing is thought to be available.



Four-star petrol selling at 139.9p a gallon in Toxteth, Liverpool.

## Few buyers rush to beat Budget

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

A regular customer yesterday rang a London branch of House of Bewley, the tobacconists, to make sure an order for 500 cigars - about six months' supply - was cleared before the Chancellor gets a chance to strike today on excise duties.

It was not a typical incident in what passes for a pre-Budget buying rush in the straightened circumstances of today. Most retailers of drinks and tobacco were reporting sales up between a third and a half

over the weekend and yesterday. That at best is about the level of last year's pre-Budget buying.

The pundits have been guessing that spirits are likely to go up 55p a bottle, beer by 2p a pint, wine by 10p a bottle and cigarettes by between 4p and 10p a packet of 20. That's based mainly on the assumption that duties will rise in line with inflation over the year. But wine and beer duties could vary by beer's detriment because of BEC pressures on the Chan-

cellor over treating wine more lightly.

The lack of panic buying shows how many have learned the lesson of earlier years. Stocks of goods in the retail pipeline are such that supplies of drink and tobacco could be going at pre-Budget prices for at least a fortnight, and probably longer.

But motorists, if the Chancellor puts 5p on a gallon to index for inflation, would be paying out more from mid-night tonight.

## Building still in recession

By Rupert Morris

Britain's building industry, hoping for some substantial government help in today's Budget, had its arguments reinforced yesterday with publication of depressing figures for output during last year.

Output in 1981 was 12 per cent down on the previous year, according to provisional government statistics. And output in the fourth quarter was 4 per cent below the figure for the previous quarter.

Employment in the industry showed the most dramatic fall, with new work in the public sector 39 per cent lower in 1981 than in 1980. The fourth quarter was 10 per cent down on the previous quarter.

Employment in the industry in January this year was 11 per cent lower than a year ago, and 4 per cent lower than in October 1981. Official figures, which exclude self-employed workers, show that the industry has lost a quarter of its workforce since 1974.

Two weeks ago, Government ministers were happy with the figures showing an increase in new orders. But yesterday the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors seized on the latest "deplorable" statistics as bearing out their own pessimistic view of the industry's prospects.

The fourth quarter of 1981 shows private industrial building down 2 per cent on the previous quarter and down 18 per cent over the 12 months.

## Factory prices signal single-digit inflation

By Frances Williams

There was more encouraging news for the Government yesterday that inflation may fall to single figures from its present 12 per cent before the end of the year.

Figures for February published by the Department of Industry show a further slow down in the annual rate of price increases for goods leaving Britain's factories and a big fall in the yearly rate at which the cost of industry's fuel and raw materials is rising.

Input prices rose by 0.4 per cent in February, while the 12-monthly increase fell to 1.2 per cent from 1.3 per cent in January, and a peak of 18.3 per cent last October.

Some analysts were expecting a fall in input prices last month because of lower crude oil prices, but these were offset by a fall in the price of gas against the dollar, the currency in which oil prices are set. Industry officials said the cost of crude oil and its products in sterling terms had remained virtually unchanged from January.

The rise in output prices fell for the second month running from 10.9 per cent in January to 10.6 per cent in February. Prices rose by 0.7 per cent in the month, with increases over a wide range of products.

Officials expect a further fall in output price inflation over the next few months, barring Budget upsets.

The indexation of excise duties in line with inflation would not overturn this forecast because they were increased in last year's Budget by twice the amount needed to compensate for a 15 per cent rate of inflation.

The \$4 a barrel cut in North Sea oil prices announced last week could produce a 2 per cent fall in input costs in March, but some of this is likely to be offset by a further drop in the price of gas. Nevertheless, officials expect a fall on the annual rate of cost increases because of a big rise in the index in March 1981.

In December the Treasury predicted that inflation would fall to 10 per cent by the end of 1982, but some analysts, noting the favourable trend in input prices and low rises in unit labour costs, are now suggesting that single figure inflation could be reached earlier, perhaps as soon as the spring.

All steelmaking at the British Steel Corporation's giant works at Ravenscraig in Scotland has been halted by a strike by 3,000 workers.

The men, all members of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, the industry's largest union, walked out in protest over the introduction of a new pay and productivity deal.

The strike affects not only the Ravenscraig plant near Motherwell but also the Garscaille works at nearby Girdle, and could also involve the corporation's ore terminal at Hunterston on the Ayrshire coast.

The deal, which according to BSC would involve a reduction in the workforce

from 5,500 to 5,140, also incorporates greater job flexibility between skilled and unskilled workers and bonus payments tied to agreed performance targets.

The ISTC nationally held out against the introduction of the locally negotiated agreements, but a month ago joined the industry's other unions in agreeing the plan which Mr Ian MacGregor, the BSC chairman, said is vital to achieve the efficiency levels needed and to reduce the scale of losses.

Mr Clive Lewis, an ISTC official, said: "We were hoping that management would see that their course of action was lunatic and draw back from the brink.

This confrontation was inevitable. He said the union had been presented with a 47-page document on the new proposals, and after only two meetings the local management had decided arbitrarily to introduce the scheme.

The management said that the nine other unions on the site had accepted the scheme, and the performance bonus plan - which provided percentage rises in double figures if targets were met - had been under discussion since last November.

Last night, after shop stewards had met, convenor Mr Tommy Brennan appealed to management to discuss the new working practices plan with them.

## House of Lords test for Lloyd's Bill

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Opponents of the divestment clause in the Lloyd's Bill will be having their say again when the Bill receives its third reading in the House of Commons tonight.

But the next big obstacle for the Bill, designed to update the archaic disinvestment powers and procedures of the London insurance market, is likely to come in its passage through the House of Lords.

Today, Mr Roger Moore, MP, Conservative MP for Faversham and a director of Alexander Howden Insurance

Brokers, will speak against divestment. Alexander Howden has been one of the most visible and vigorous opponents of divestment, which would force Lloyd's brokers to sever their underwriting links.

However, Mr Moore is not expected to mount any serious attempt to block the Bill - he himself says he wants it to go through and the group of Tory backbenchers who wish to change Clause 14, the immunity

clause, are content to let the third reading pass. Amendments cannot be taken at the third reading anyway.

Opponents can, and doubtless will, petition the Lords for amendments. Those who object to the kind of immunity for a new ruling council being proposed under the Bill to protect it from being sued by shareholders, members of Lloyd's hope that changes may be made in the Lords. The divestment issue is also likely to be reopened there.

## MITCHELL COTTS

International Engineering, Transportation and Trading

## Interim Report for the six months ended 31st December 1981

Profits for the six months to 31st December 1981 were \$4,324,000, an increase of 21% over the previous year. This improvement is largely due to increases in profits of our U.K. transportation subsidiaries aided by very satisfactory results from Bruda International, acquired during the year. In Belgium also our subsidiary, Lee Enterprises Van Ryment, is surmounting the general difficulties there and contributing north-wide profits.

The outlook continues to depend upon conditions in South Africa and Australia and there is evidence, particularly in the mining sector, of an increasing downturn which is affecting many of our clients. Our companies have so far performed reasonably well, but under the circumstances it remains difficult to forecast the outcome for the year as a whole.

It is pleasing to announce that financing arrangements for the substantial contract in Nigeria awarded to our subsidiary company, Capital Plant International, have now been completed. This contract is not expected to bring in significant profits before next year.

Over recent years an undue disparity has developed between the interim and final dividends. We understand that Shareholders would prefer a more even distribution and accordingly an interim dividend of 1.5p per share has been declared (1980: 0.6525p). This should not be taken as meaning that there will be any increase in the total dividend for the year. The interim dividend, together with the Preference Shares, will total £1,094,000 (1980: £408,000) and will be paid on 10th May 1982 to Shareholders on the register at the close of business on 2nd April 1982.

P.D. Dunkley, Chairman

## Unaudited Interim Results for the six months ended 31st December 1981

	Six months Dec. 1981 £000s	Six months Dec. 1980 £000s	Year June 1981 £000s
Turnover	190,563	159,736	363,326
Profit before Interest and Taxation	7,456	6,353	14,987
Interest	3,132	2,771	5,828
Profit before Taxation	4,324	3,582	9,139
Taxation	2,572	1,680	3,897
Profit after Taxation	1,752	1,902	5,242
Minority Interests	849	900	1,957
Profit before Extraordinary Items	903	1,002	3,285
Earnings per Share (net basis)	1.47p	1.85p	5.82p
Extraordinary Items	2,445	(422)	2,717
Net Attributable Profit	3,348	580	6,002







## BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

## PEOPLE

## Sir Charles bangs his steel drum

Off the industrial stage since the steel strike, former British Steel chairman Sir Charles Villiers has been stomping the country trying to find new jobs for steelworkers casualties of his own plant closure programme.

BSC (Industry) provides advice and financial grease to induce new business into steel closure zones.

Says Villiers: "We support everything short of a sex shop." When he is not banging the drum for jobs, Villiers gets up early to bang the typewriter — the fruits of his labour are likely to be in a publishers' hands by the end of the year.

Zeng Shengyang is not just a *Chow Mein* and *Sau Pau* restaurant manager. He tells sick people what to eat. In his *Tongrentang* restaurant in Chengdu, Sichuan Province, all 100 dishes cure something or other. Pheasant dumpling soup is good for diabetes, and ginger soup for neuritis, rheumatism, cardiac debility and gastric trouble. Sliced pork with chrysanthemums helps keep one cool, and carp with red beans is good for dropsy. However there is no cure for hangovers or other common Western ailments.

## Mrs Thatcher's slant of hand

Jenny Hailon

Mrs Thatcher will win the next election — if her handwriting is any guide. One should never underestimate somebody who writes as she does. Jenny Hailon, a London handwriting expert in her mid-thirties tells me. For a living, she helps companies choose recruits. The prime minister's (right) slant shows someone very ambitious who likes and gets her own way, she says.

It is good to know that Jenny's conclusions about Mrs T are those reached by the rest of us, and clearly it is a surprise that the Premier is so unlike other women in getting their own way. Jenny reports that she once advised a client to reject someone who later absconded to South America with another company's takings. I wish her success in her quest for other fraudsters. To find one only looks like luck.

Marzo Brown, Jamaica's Minister of State for Tourism, is in London this week. He tells me that his country's Chancellor has found a novel way of contributing to the exchequer — lifting the gold off a sunken wreck. Jamaica's Minister of Finance also happens to be the Prime Minister, Edward Seaga. So where and what is this wreck? "I don't know. He won't tell me, it's so secret," says Dr Brown.

Dr Marco Brown

Still too many

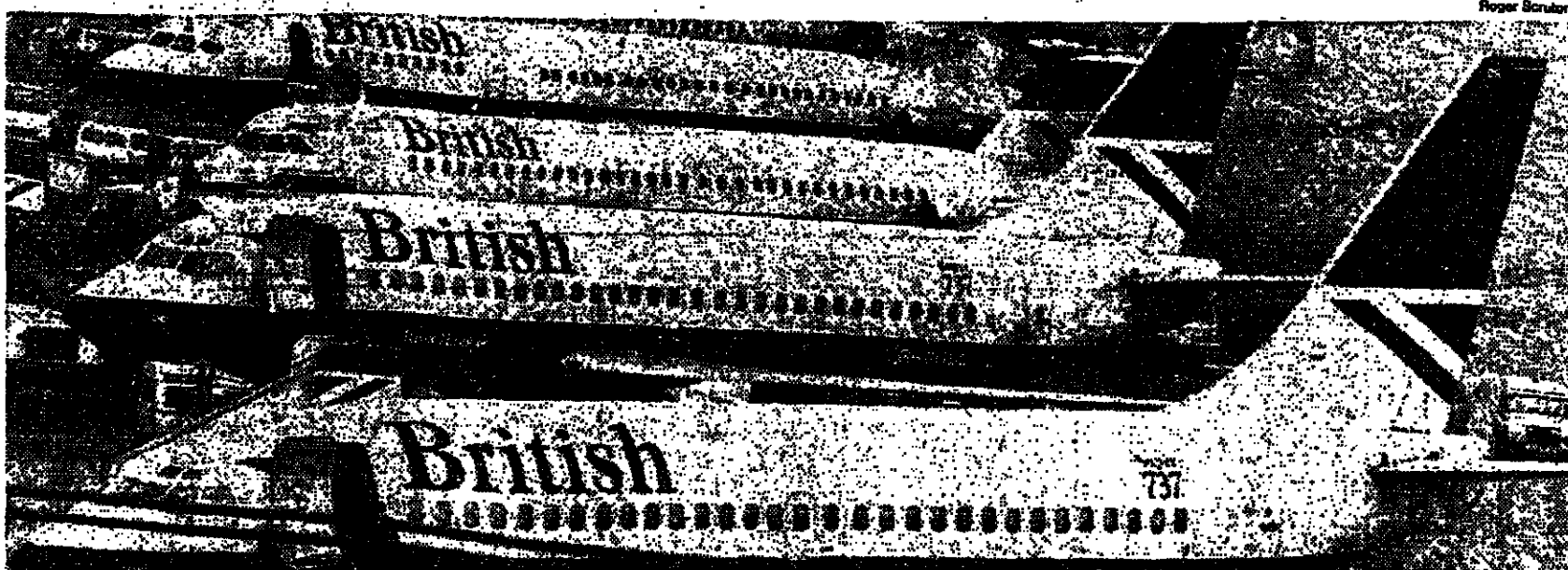
The boom in Whitehall economists is over. Since 1978, the number of economists on the payroll of central government has fallen by 7 per cent (seasonally adjusted) to 379. "Halves" refer not to midges but to economists but to part-timers. Their number, however, is still 1700 per cent greater than in the early 1960s.

Peter Wainwright

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Dr Christopher R. Burns has been appointed managing director of the Glaxo Medical Company from April 1, 1982. He succeeds Mr G. Walsh, who has been appointed divisional managing director of AE's Bearings Division, of which Glaxo Medical is a part.

Mr C. W. Bryan Jennings, financial director of the Electrical Contractors' Association has been appointed to the board of Montagu Boston Investment Trust.



Edward Townsend assesses the State Airline's chances of survival

## British Airways: can Sir John keep the flag flying?

Sir John King, chairman of troubled British Airways, is heading for a £200m loss in the current year and its debts are almost £1,000m. These are the figures that Sir John and his directors must turn round if the Government's hopes of a sale to the public are ever to be realized.

Mr John Sprout, Under-Secretary of State for Trade, told MPs a week ago that BA had received state support by at least 10 separate means. These included preferential interest rates from the National Loan Fund, private sector debts guaranteed by the Treasury, benefits from the exchange cover scheme, and subsidies to Concorde which had been backed by the taxpayer to the tune of £10m every year.

Considerable uncertainty now surrounds BA's expectation of breaking even in 1982-83. Apart from its £150m cost of the current redundancy programme, BA continues to be hit by the world airline recession and is certain to face pressure as a result of the Price Waterhouse report to trim further its unprofitable domestic services.

Mr Roy Watts, BA's chief executive, who, because of his experience, is likely to survive the present purge, has now put up for sale a significant proportion of the company's aircraft fleet. In the past few weeks, he sold a nearly new Boeing Jumbo freighter for £25m to Cathay Pacific, bringing the total raised from aircraft disposals in recent months to £130m.

The cuts in capacity and routes still leave BA with three passenger Jumbos, one VC10 and seven Viscounts to sell. The total expected to raise up to £100m.

Much of the need for this cutback can be blamed on the unprecedented and prolonged recession which has left far too many seats in the world airline fleet chasing too few passengers. In 1978, BA was blithely talking about doubling in size within eight years, a compound growth of

nine per cent a year, but is now much more cautious.

Mr Watts said recently: "We didn't imagine a situation where the world air transport market was actually going to decline for two or three years in a row, in the face of the worst recession for half a century."

Moreover, our best estimate now is that our own traffic will not grow at much over four per cent a year for most of the 1980s. So that doubling of size has been pushed back somewhere into the 1990s.

The 1978 forecast was that BA would be carrying 30m passengers a year and employ 55,000 staff. Now, the survival plan is to cut the workforce to below 43,000 by June this year and eventually to under 40,000.

BA is assuming there will be no overall growth in traffic this year and that while there may be a modest rise in fares, this will not



Sir John King: appointed to prepare the way for privatisation.

offer inflation and the company's real income will fall.

According to Mr Watts, improvement to BA's performance can only be achieved by reducing costs, raising efficiency, controlling capacity and winning business from competitors.

"We are determined to make British Airways a low-cost operator because it is quite clear to us that in a competitive environment, the airline that can control its costs without lowering its quality, will rule the commercial battlefield. In the last resort it is the low-cost operator who will survive."

Already, BA has withdrawn from unprofitable passenger routes to a number of destinations. By the end of this month there will be no BA flights from Heathrow to Luxembourg, Zagreb, Belgrade, Sofia, Bucharest and Salonia. Others to go include Manchester to New York; Prestwick to New York and Toronto; Gatwick to Valencia; Birmingham to Brussels, Zurich and Milan; and Glasgow to Copenhagen.

The Price Waterhouse report is certain to have recommended pulling out of all uncommercial routes including, possibly, the scheduled, but not charter, services to Spain and Portugal.

These measures alone, however, will not be sufficient to attract private finance into BA and the Government will want a more wide-ranging streamlining of the organisation.

Against its better judgement, BA may be forced to sell its valued and valuable fringe activities such as helicopter services, holiday tours and hotels which could raise £150m, before the Government would consider any additional major assistance towards a capital restructuring which would be necessary before a public flotation.

A tightening of the purse strings was evident when asked for an extra £53m of borrowings to help finance

the redundancy programme. The airline will be paying commercial rates of interest and must pay back the loans within a year, one important factor that could prevent breakeven being achieved in 1982-83.

Borrowings, which cost BA £120m a year in interest must be reduced, to ensure success.

Meanwhile, BA is planning to invest massive sums in new aircraft that it hopes will be more cost effective. The most recent, and on BA's own admission "controversial", order was for 19 of the new Boeing 757 short-medium haul airliners at a cost of £40m.

Mr Watts describes it as "our largest single investment in the future of British Airways" and the most important single purchase decision taken by any British airline.

Initially, the 757s will be used in a mixture of domestic Shuttle services and normal European scheduled services and replace the aging Trident 3.

With 220 seats against the Trident's 146, the 757 should help BA to make big cost savings. The Shuttle. The airline calculates that if the 757 eliminates the need for only one back-up flight a day, savings could add up to £1m a year.

Mr Watts confidently predicts that the 757 will provide a reduction in seat-mile costs of more than 15 per cent compared with the Trident 3, even allowing for depreciation and interest charges on loans.

In the short term, however, it is the speed with which the present recovery plan can be implemented that will decide whether BA has a chance of survival.

Sir John and Mr Watts are calling for a slitting down and restructuring that possibly could have been achieved years ago but never was undertaken by successive managements.

The ASA's code has a special clause dealing with health claims and fear: "No advertisement should cause those who see it unwarranted anxiety lest they are suffering from any disease or condition of the body, or suggest that any product is necessary for the maintenance of health."

This is one reason why Lintas, the advertising agency that handles Flora margarine, does not try to frighten people in its campaign. "But even if we were allowed to, we wouldn't use fear in the advertising," says Mr Maurice Drake, the agency's executive creative director. "We're deliberately using Terry Wogan in our campaign because we want it to be not a health freak's brand but a family margarine."

"Doom laden advertising doesn't get you very far. Nobody welcomes the messenger who brings bad news."

Mr Drake says the most effective anti-smoking advertising was not that which went on about cancer but another "offensive" campaign that played on the social stigma of smoking — "Your breath smells like an old ashtray."

Playing on social fears, he believes, can be far more effective than physical ones. "The fear of offending your own peer group is very strong."

Mr Lawrence is unhappy about such subtle uses of fear. "The drink and tobacco manufacturers are very sophisticated in their campaigns, making people feel afraid of being left behind in the status game," he says.

The ASA has recently upheld two complaints about advertisements for nuclear fallout shelters on the grounds that they played on the public's fear of a nuclear holocaust.

None of these compares, however, with the straightforward attempt to frighten people into wearing seat belts. "We deliberately tried to create a nightmare," says Dampier. "We're saying this isn't happening to somebody else, it's happening to you."

## Business Editor

## The CSI comes under pressure

The Council for the Securities Industry is facing its toughest battle for survival since it began life four years ago. Set up in 1978 in response to the prevailing feeling that any further statutory regulation of the securities markets could only be to the detriment of the City's well-established informal approach, the idea behind the CSI was to make the existing self-regulatory mechanisms more effective. It was going to do this by improving the representation of sectional City interests in an umbrella organization.

Thinly-veiled criticism of the CSI has broken out into open warfare and if one group is orchestrating the campaign it appears to be the merchant banks who were particularly dissatisfied with last year's draft code on investment management.

Earlier this year Professor Gower put some flesh on these criticisms in his review of investor protection when he cast doubt on whether the CSI would have a role to play. The most he could see was to turn the CSI into a supervising body for the other self-regulatory bodies he proposed. The CSI appears to be so worried about its future that it is already drawing up its defences.

There have been two kinds of complaint about the CSI. One is that its public profile — and particularly that of its chairman Mr Patrick Neill — has been so low as to be invisible. Moral suasion, which is after all the CSI's main weapon, rarely works in such a vacuum.

The other criticism is that whenever the CSI opens its mouth it puts its foot in it. It never recovered from the brouhaha over its code of conduct for the issuing

Plainly, with individual City markets having their own responsibility for self-regulation, the CSI has found difficulty in isolating its area of responsibility. This has not been helped by the fact that its members come from vested City interests.

The CSI has been deliberating for a year on increasing its lay membership; this should be done without delay. The CSI also needs to improve its depth of expertise in City affairs.

## Base rates How big a cut?

The only question in the City yesterday was by just how much the banks would cut their base rates once the Chancellor has done his stuff this afternoon. Established practice under the post-MLR regime has been for base rates to come down in half point steps. But this time it seems certain that we are in for rather more than that.

With the yield on three-month billable bills down to more than 12 1/2 per cent, there is a yawning gap between the cost of this type of finance and the 14 1/2 per cent payable on blue chip overdrafts.

However, the super-optimists looking for a 1/2 point cut in base rates, to produce a tidy 12 per cent, may be getting rather ahead of the game. Certainly, it would be surprising were the authorities keen to see such a large step downward with a new base rate just about to start. True, there was a 2-point cut in MLR at last year's Budget. But how long did the euphoria last?

Yesterday's further easing in dollar interest rates after another better-than-expected set of weekly American money supply figures is, of course, a helpful factor. But London markets are hardly likely to be getting a fall in the British money supply figures for February when the preliminary estimate comes out an hour before Sir Geoffrey gets to his feet this afternoon.

Most estimates centre on a sterling M3 rise of 1/4 to 1 per cent — and anything higher would not be good news given the high level of back tax payments reported in the first half of the period.



Mr Patrick Neill—low profile

## ACC Slugging it out

houses, and its lame reaction to the Norton Warburg-type disasters was to issue a code of conduct for fund managers which was dismissed as being out of touch.

Indeed, the whole approach of the CSI appears to have been to act first and think later — in marked contrast to the Takeover Panel which in the past has been accused of moving too slowly. Admittedly, it took the CSI an unconscionable time to tackle the thorny subject of dawn raids. But even then it had to change the rules a couple of times.

More recently its rules on share purchases during a takeover have been attacked as unduly fettering the hunter without succeeding in curbing trigger-happy fund managers. Some areas where it promised action, such as non-voting shares, the CSI has come up with a peculiarly establishment solution.

Out of the law courts, the Associated Communications Corporation saga has now turned into a slugging match rather than the kind of drama to grace the Barbican. Who will win? That remains to be seen, but Mr Holmes' Court's earlier buying of ACC shares at perhaps half the present price, obviously gives him a considerable advantage in terms of financial reach. While a win at present prices (assuming no outstanding minorities remain) would cost Mr Ronson just under £50m, the equivalent cost to Mr Holmes' Court would be little more than £40m.

Meanwhile, the board of control, apparently dallying in adjudicating over Mr Holmes' Court's alleged "low punch" last week, must issue some form of official warning. Mitigating circumstances there may have been, but rules are rules.

## Using fear to sell the message

## MARKETING AND ADVERTISING SHOCK TACTICS

By Torin Douglas

The marketing text-books almost certainly offer the budding salesman a more promising opening line than the almost gratuitously offensive "How would you like your face smashed in?"

Yet that is the wording of an advertising poster that is presently to be seen in many parts of the country. Others in the series, designed to encourage people to wear seat belts, say: "If you're not careful, you could get stitched up", and "Don't lose your head in an emergency". They are all Government-sponsored advertisements and they are intended to shock or frighten motorists into doing what they are told.

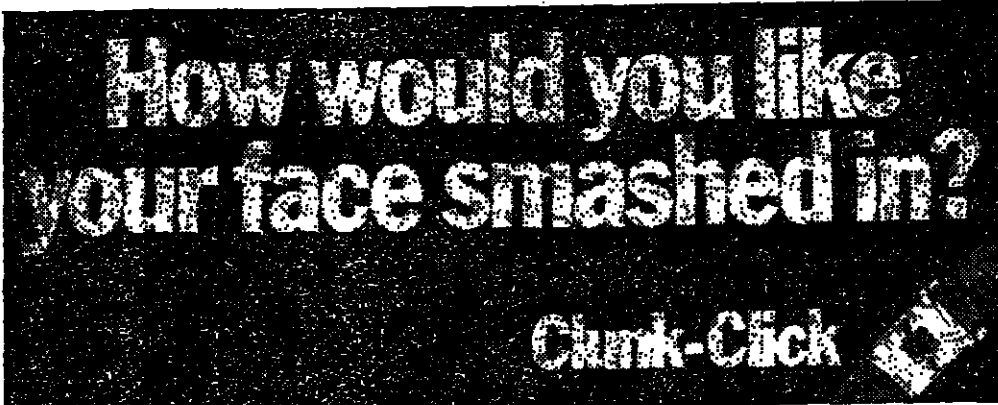
The television commercial accompanying the posters is, if anything, more shocking. Instead of printing tough statements it reconstructs the "unforgettable journey" of a driver going through his windscreen, and subsequently into hospital, from the victim's point of view.

Yet despite its offensive nature, the campaign has produced comparatively few complaints. The mother of a four-year-old girl wrote to the London Standard questioning whether the commercial should have been shown during television programmes for the under-fives.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), which vets all television commercials, has had one or two complaints and the Advertising Standard Authority (ASA) is considering a single complaint about one of the posters.

Are fear and shock legitimate weapons for advertisers? Should they be set out to offend people? And perhaps more importantly, do such advertisements work?

Mr Ken Dampier, who wrote the material for the



seat belts campaign, believes the answer to both questions is yes. An associate creative director at the advertising agency Wasey Campbell Ewald, he has been working on the seat belts campaign for only two years, but he points to the original Jimmy Savile "Clunk Click" campaign as proof that shock and fear can work.

"I saw that campaign, showing people who had been through a windscreen, before I was old enough to drive, and I had such an effect that I've always worn a seatbelt since," he says.

"Many other people did the same and there was a substantial increase in wearing seat belts."

"Now, however, people are forgetting just what clunk click means. Our research shows that most people want to wear seat belts, but they often forget or can't be bothered. A lot of people think it won't happen to them."

"Our job is to remind people forcefully, and we decided that fear was the most potent way of doing this."

Dampier believes fear is a justifiable weapon in this case — "the product we're selling is life itself" — but that it would not be acceptable for a commercial product.

This is also the view of the two control bodies, the IBA and ASA, which both have

clauses in their codes of practices stating that "advertisements must not without justifiable reason play on fear."

"If the cause is just, we will permit it," says Mr Harry Theobald, head of advertising control at the IBA. "In matters of health and safety, such as wearing seatbelts or preventing people drinking and driving, fear is sometimes justified, even though the commercials will upset some viewers."

"Whether it is acceptable for a commercial service, such as insurance, is far less clear cut and we would demand more restraint in those cases."

Some people argue that an excessive use of fear can be counter-productive, either because the public gets immune to such appeals or because it shuts its eyes, or its mind, to them.

"I personally find it hard to look at commercials where a child runs out into the road and I used to recoil from the one where the hammer used to smash the peach," says Mr Freddie Lawrence, head of advertising at the Health Education Council, which also uses fear in its advertising. "You could say that in those cases the technique worked, but I do believe that too much fear can be counter-productive."

Mr Lawrence was responsible for the television commercial warning people not

to overeat, in which a man stuffed himself with food from the cradle virtually to the grave.

He was shown having a heart attack ending up in hospital, where, in the payoff line, his wife asked him whether he was getting enough to eat.

"It was once fashionable to use naked fear in health and public service advertising," says Lawrence. "We used to say things like 'Give up smoking or you will get cancer' and 'Give up smoking your unborn baby will die'."

"Then it began to fall out of favour, but my feeling is we are moving back to the use of fear, in a much more sophisticated form. We are using it to stir people out of complacency, but we now end the ads on a positive note."

"We still say that smoking can kill you but I hope we leave people with the feeling that if they stop they will have a better life. We use fear at the beginning, but soften the message at the end."

According to Mr Theobald, the IBA had no problem in approving the heart attack commercial because it was done with a light touch and so was not offensive. However, such an approach would not be acceptable for say, a margarine that claimed to be better for you because it was high in polyunsaturated fats.

## GEORGE H. SCHOLES PLC

WYLEX WORKS, WYTHENSHAW, MANCHESTER M22 4RA

Manufacturers of Wylex Electrical Products

INTERIM REPORT

Unaudited results for the half year to 31st December, 1981

	1981	1980
Sales	£800	£670
Trading Profit	8,064	6,720
Interest on Short Term Deposits	1,241	415
	31	—
Bank Interest Paid	1,272	415
Profit before Tax	—	25
Tax	1,272	390
Profit after Tax	523	177
Proposed Interim Dividend:	749	213
Rate per Share	6p	4p
Amount	257	171
Profit retained	482	42
Earnings per share based on profit after tax shown above	17.5p	5.0p

The unaudited results for the half year to 31st December, 1981 are shown above.

I am pleased to report that the Company's improved performance in the second half of our last financial year has been maintained and is reflected in the Interim Report.

The Directors have today declared an Interim Dividend of 6p per share payable on the 12th May, 1982, to Shareholders on the Register at 8th April, 1982.

G. R. C. McDowell, Chairman

8th March, 1982



125	112	Young Co Inv	134	2.8	2.4	nominal loan stock at 10 per cent.
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## FOOTBALL

## Spurs have cup history and form on their side

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The FA Cup final at Wembley on May 22 could be between two first-division sides, two second-division sides, two London clubs, two from the Midlands. Those are four possibilities thrown up by yesterday's semi-final draw, but the probability is that the atmosphere of every player's dream will belong to the two most successful knockout specialists this season, Tottenham Hotspur and West Bromwich Albion.

Spurs, who have won the cup four times, are the only London club in the country, face Leicester City with cup history, as well as the likes of Huddersfield, Arsenal, and Manchester United. On their side, names such as Blanchflower, Mackay, Smith and White were at prominent 21 years ago when Spurs beat Leicester 2-0 in the final. The club has won the cup five times in the last decade.

## Scots pitch camp 50 miles from a rip-off

Scotland yesterday moved their World Cup '50 miles' to escape from what they called a Spanish rip-off. The Scottish FA have terminated negotiations with the original bid for the 1990 World Cup, which was to be held in Spain, and booked their entire party into the huge Scotiabank complex on the Costa del Sol, 15 minutes' drive from Gibraltar.

The SFA secretary, Brian Walker, said the Parador had failed to lower the prices he had already described as 'rip-off'. The Scotiabank had come up with acceptable financial terms. "I don't think I have seen Scotiabank, and its private company and its management facilities."

The Malaga hotel had apparently increased their daily rates from around £18 to £20, though Mr Walker said he was not prepared to discuss them publicly. "We are talking in terms of vast sums of money regarding the differential between the two resorts."

For the first time, the first team from the second division in 27 years to reach the semi-final round of the Scottish Cup, 1981, their path to the final was through the Cup holders, Rangers. The little club from the bottom grade will meet Rangers at Hampden Park, April 10.

Rangers must have a 'great chance of reaching their seventh successive Scottish Cup final. The luck of the draw has followed the holders, who lifted the trophy by beating Dundee United in a replay last year.

The Rangers' midfield player Gordon Strachan has been suspended until August 31 by the Scottish FA.

On a weekend that did not provide a momentary action, passions were suddenly inflamed for fighting to break out in at least four games.

The two games of consequence failed to arouse the participants' fury. Glasgow Dynamo went down 7-2 to Dundee Rockets to lose their chance of a place in the Northern League.

Gary Lawrence, an Ontario who has captained Yale University, scored three goals for Oxford and Pekko Hakkarainen, a Finn, replied with two for Cambridge. The Dark Blues won 7-1 in front of 4,000 spectators at Streatham to take a 42-19 lead in the 79-year-old series.

It was also a wild weekend for Southampton 'Vikings', who recorded their first Ben Truman Cup points of the season. On Saturday they drew at Richmond and on Sunday three goals from Scottie Morrison helped them to a 3-4 win over Solihull Barons.

Solihull, disappointing during the game, were disgraced after the match, as they were broken by a punch.

At Nottingham and Ayr the referees were kept busy. Murrayfield Racers completed their Scottish League programme with a big win at Ayr, where Jack Hay (4) and Derek Reilly (3) did most of the damage. The teams were separated by the time fighting broke out in the penalty box.

But the fight of the week involved two of the biggest defences in the country. Willford, who were 1-0 down to Kewley (Hills), then ended their involvement in the game, won 5-4 by Fife.

In the women's section, Telford beat Lamber HSEF 3-0, the game being over inside an hour. At Telford, the holders, beat Dunfermline College tomorrow, then the title is theirs again.

In Scotland, however, MIM, the league leaders, suffered an unexpected defeat in the Royal Bank match, losing 1-2 to Dundee United (15-12).

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day, and are likely to be preparing for another semi-final, the European Cup Winners' Cup, four days later. It is such a close-knit pressure that may yet cause the downfall of Spurs, who could play another 26 games in the next three months.

Leicester themselves, six games and 11 points behind Blackburn Rovers in fourth place, have a similar pile of outstanding second-division fixtures. One of them takes place tonight against Chelsea. Tottenham are away on Saturday, and Jack Wallace, Leicester's manager, will be eager to listen to the views of his opposite number, John Neal. Chelsea, who have won the cup twice, are also in the last four for the first time, 14 years after winning it in 1968 and in 1954.

The superstitious might point out that their defeat against Queen's Park Rangers in the first round, which was their 13th in the two cup competitions this season, and that when the pair met in the first League Cup final, held at Wembley in 1967, Rangers then in the third division won 3-2.

Now in the second division, Rangers are the doorkeepers of the FA Cup final for the first time. West Bromwich, in contrast, are in the last four for a record 19th appearance.

Leicester, conquerors of Southampton in the third round, also have an historical statistic to comfort them. They beat Spurs twice in the FA Cup, in 1957 and 1958, and were relegated. Presumably they will avoid employing three goalkeepers, as they were forced to do against Shrewsbury Town on Saturday, but there may be moments when they wish that they had all of them there together.

West Bromwich were knocked out in the semi-final of the League Cup by Spurs but their manager, Ronnie Allen, has insisted that the name of his side is already engraved on this trophy. An historical sequence is also in their favour and their manager, Alan Smith, has come around again, 14 years after winning it in 1968 and in 1954.

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Taking a dive: Alan Knott lunges to dismiss Kirsten, the Western Province captain.

## Woolmer teams up with rebels

By Our Sports Staff

Bob Woolmer, the Kent batsman who has been coaching the only all-coloured cricket club in Cape Town, has joined the rebel English cricketers in South Africa.

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## CRICKET

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**Edited by Peter Dear**

**Radio 4**

6.00 News Briefing.  
6.10 Farming Today.  
6.30 Today.  
6.45 Today for the Day.  
7.00 Today's News.  
7.30 News Headlines.  
7.45 Thought for the Day.  
8.00 Today's News.  
8.30 News Headlines.  
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.  
8.57 Weather and Travel.  
9.00 News.  
9.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411 —  
Spring Cleaning.  
10.00 News.  
10.02 From Our Own Correspondent.  
10.05 Daily Service.  
10.40 Reading Story: "Peg" by Nesta  
Turner.  
11.00 News and Travel.  
11.05 Play: "A Nice Day Out" by  
Alice Westbrook.  
11.35 Wildlife.  
12.00 News.  
12.05 Tuesday Call: 01-580 4411 —  
Spring Cleaning.

records.  
1.30 Jazz in Britain featuring Johnny  
Owens, Wildchdocter's Son.  
.00 News.  
11.05-11.15 Historic Sitobius  
on record  
VHF ONLY — 5.55-6.55 am  
and 11.20 pm-12.20 am Open  
University. 5.55 am Aural  
Training (1) 6.15 Dr Benjamin  
Spock 6.35-5.55 Locke, Hume  
and Necessity 11.20 pm  
Pollution Control 11.40 Kiz-  
amori Oldo Teaboni 12.0-12.20  
am Hector Guimard.

**Radio 1**

o As Radio 2, 7.00 Steve Wright.  
o Silver Streaks, 8.00 Dave Linn.  
o 9.00pm Paul Burnett.  
o By Request, 10.00 Talkabout, 8.00  
and Jensen, 10.00 John Peel.  
o Midnight Close.

2.55 Weather and Travel.  
1.00 The World at One.  
1.40 The Archers.  
2.00 News.  
2.00 Women's Hour.  
3.00 News and Travel.  
3.02 Ebon's England. John Ebdon  
reflects on his fellow country-  
men.

3.17 PM Budget Special.  
5.55 Weather.  
6.00 News: PM Budget Special.  
7.00 News.  
7.05 The Archers.  
7.20 Medicine Now. The health of  
medical care.  
7.50 Wildlife Language (5) Bird Calls  
and Songs.  
8.05 High Mountains and Cold Seas.  
A portrait of H. W. Tilman.  
9.20 In Touch.  
9.30 Kaleidoscope.  
9.59 Weather.  
10.00 News: Last Word. The Budget.  
10.30 News: Last Word with Paula Wilcox.  
10.40 David Wood.


[illegible]

Confederacy of 'Dunces' by  
John Kennedy Toole, (12).  
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.  
12.00 Today in Parliament.  
12.00 News and Weather.  
VHF with 10 except as follows:  
6.25-6.30am Weather and  
Travel. 10.00 For Schools:  
10.00 Third World Express-  
10.15 Playtime. 10.30-10.45

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053K  
VHF 90.92-5MHz; MF 121.5kHz  
1152KHz/281m. VHF 97.5MHz; Ca.  
MF 648KHz/463m.

**BBC1**

Cymru/Wales 9.10am-9.35 Ysgollon;  
Ynifadreddau. 12.57pm-1.00 News of



**W. H. Auden: the subject of the programme The Double Man (Radio 3, 7.00 pm)**

693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m R  
 MFH 92-95MHz. Greater London A  
 C Radio London MF 1458kHz/206

**ON VARIATIONS**

**GRANADA**

Thames except: 1.20 Granada  
 Sports, 1.30 Exchange Flags, 2.30-

Commentary 11.15 Earthquake  
 10 Minutes 12.00 World News 12.05  
 about Britain 12.15 Radio New Zealand  
 A Jolly Gong Review 1.15 Outlook:  
 e Summary 1.45 Report on Reception  
 World News 2.05 Review of the British  
 2.15 The King of Instruments 2.30  
 Rodin Lecture 3.00 World News 3.05  
 3.15 The World Today  
 Discovery 4.00 Newscast 5.45 The  
 Day Today.

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10 To 2 VHF 88-91MHz: Radio 3  
 VHF 120kHz: 100% FM  
 10 VHF 34 9MHz: World Service

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## ANGLIA

Themes exact: 12.30 pm-1.00  
 Denning Time, 1.20-1.30 News.

**CHANNEL**

Is Thamsa excepted: 12.30pm-1.00 Section '82: Guinness Election for reprints. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel report. 6.55 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Private Benidorm. 10.28 News. 10.32 Chance to meet Andy Gail. 10.44 Just Desserts. 11.40 Danger. 11.40am

**GRAMPIAN**

Themes except: Starts 9.30-9.30 at Thling 12.30-1.00 Paint Along w Nancy, 1.20-1.30 News, 6.05-6.10 Tonight, 6.30 Crossroads, 7.00-7.20 U of Us, 11.40 Superstar Profile: James Caan, 12.10 News, 11.55 Closedown.

**HTV**

Themes except: 12.30-1.00 Paint along w Nancy, 1.20-1.30 News, 10 News, 6.30 Comedians, 7.00-7.05 Closedown.

**ULSTER**  
 Themes except: 1.20 pm-1.30  
 Machine, 6.00 Good Evening Ulster.  
 5 Crossroads, 7.00-7.30  
 merdale Farm, 6.00 News at  
 11.00. Closedown.

**TYNE TEES**  
 Themes except: Starts 9.25 am  
 rd Word, 9.30-9.35 News, 1.20-  
 1.30 News, Lookaround, 5.15-5.45  
 vival, 6.00 News, 6.02 Crossroads,  
 5.45 News, 7.00-7.30  
 merdale Farm, 11.20 Two of Us.  
 05 am Reconciliation, 12.10  
 sedown.

**TSW**  
 is Thames except: 12.30 pm-1.00  
 pygones. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Today  
 outh West. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-  
 30 Private Benjamin. 10.52 News.  
 0.54 Budget '82. 10.46 Bomber. Just  
 cessate. 11.40 Danger UKB. 12.40  
 in Postscript. 12.46 Closesdown.

**March 9 1982**

**defendant**

that could be raised,  
 maintained that what could not

# ing stolen

**BORDER**

Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30  
vs. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35  
Roads, 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale  
n. 11.40 News, 11.45 Closedown.

AT THE SYMBOLS MEAN ♀ STEREO  
BLACK AND WHITE (V) REPEAT.

FROM THE "MIDWINTER MURDER" SERIES

**Court of Appeal**

**goods**

n so far as the direction the  
judge gave to the jury

judge had jurisdiction he acted wrongfully in making the order. If that was the case, a document which was a document and a document could not attack it in the letter of credit action.

Mr Phillips contended that even that there was jurisdiction the order was not a document and that the only criticism was that the judge should not have made the order, the order on that hypothesis would have given Messrs Bickel & Saur authority to act on behalf of the buyers and the document would have been a document conforming to the requirements of the letter of credit which and the bank was obliged to accept.

If the Court of Appeal considered the judge's exercise of discretion wrong then at the date the notice of readiness was

The appellant representations, that he was not a thief, and that the goods were stolen from the defendant, were not a defence, for the purpose of concealing the honesty of stolen goods, if made honestly and for the benefit of the thief, might amount to handling stolen goods by assisting in their retention or disposal, in contravention of section 22 of the Theft Act 1968. The requisite assistance need not be successful as to the object, it could be absurd if a person dishonestly concealing stolen goods for the benefit of a thief could establish a defence showing that he was caught in the act.

The appellant told lies to the police to persuade them that the property was his lawful property and therefore should not be seized. Of course he was telling these lies to protect her husband who had dishonestly

However, the offence was established by the uncontradicted evidence of the police officer concerned, looked at in full, clearly showed that in order to plead that the officer who had come to take away stolen goods she misrepresented the identity of goods which she knew or believed to be stolen. Their Lordships were satisfied that there was no miscarriage of justice in this case.

**Solicitor: Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.**

out because there was no  
the Court of Appeals.  
The Court has looked at the  
the order of the order made  
usual for the order of the Court,  
Appeal to take effect from the  
by on which it was made and not  
relate back to the date of the  
order. It was a power in the  
Court to backdate its order so  
that at it would take effect on the  
day the judge made his decision.  
Accordingly, Mr. Hoffmann  
asked the question whether  
that if the bank was not allowed  
to be added as defendant to the  
petition and as party to the appeal,  
that at only left him with the  
opportunity of raising in the  
matter of credit actions, want of  
due diligence by the Justice Parker  
with regard to his order.  
There would be no opportunity

## Avoiding unequity in arbitration

plaintiff's waiting car. The car was damaged to the extent of \$138 for shock. The defendant denied any collision between the cars and offered evidence to the effect that the plaintiff's car was not involved in the accident. She had a comprehensive insurance policy which required her to deduct the cost of the damage to her car from the amount of the settlement. She offered evidence to the effect that the plaintiff's car was not involved in the accident. She offered evidence to the effect that the plaintiff's car was not involved in the accident. She offered evidence to the effect that the plaintiff's car was not involved in the accident.

...locking of such an order.  
...cedding could only be  
...ieved by the Court of Appeal.  
...submitted that it would be  
...to deprive him of what  
...ould be a valid defence to a  
...n brought against the bank in  
...his Lordship thought that  
...ere was some force in that  
...mission. Furthermore it  
...ould produce an odd situation  
...at the court would judge when  
...ing the letter of credit action  
...ould be required to sit in the  
...arity of appellate court on the  
...Justice Parkes's order.  
...in all the circumstances it  
...ould be just and convenient for  
...ank to be added as a party to  
...appeal to enable the issues  
...to be fully on the  
...rity of the office of readiness

by the defendant, Mrs. J. W. Neal, of Briars Lane, Magnolia, Alabama, from the order of the Hon. Edward Jones at Liverpool, Kentucky Court, upholding the district's order which rescinded reference to arbitration of a claim by the plaintiff, Mrs. William Pepper, of Beechfield, Ohio.

Order 19, rule 1 provides: "(4) In proceedings in which the claim or amount involved is not exceed \$500 shall stand referred for arbitration by the district upon the receipt by the clerk of the defence of the claim." (5) "If the defendant may...rescind the reference if he is satisfied..." (d) "It it would be unreasonable for the claim to proceed to arbitra-

But the plaintiff had only a "hard party policy," so that she was not bound to follow her own legal advice. The court said that the plaintiff might be unable to recover in the arbitration.

The registrar took the view that it would be unreasonable for a case to proceed to arbitration: not because of its technicality but because justice might be frustrated by the plaintiff not being able to afford legal representation.

The court said the contest would be "unreasonable and unjust" if the plaintiffs' application to rescind the arbitration reference to the registrar under the rule.

In the circumstances, the registrar properly exercised his discretion, and the judge was not

signature of Master Bickford-  
nib. For those reasons the  
application would be allowed.  
Lord Justice Stephenson and  
Lord Justice O'Connor agreed.  
Solicitors: Allen & Overy;  
Meron & Markby; Holman  
Jennings & Willan.

Mr William Waldron for the defendant; Mr Timothy R. A. for the plaintiff.

SIR SEBAG SHAW said that plaintiff, who alleged that the defendant reversed her car into

**Solicitors:** Lawrence Graham Edleton Lewis for Weightmans, Liverpool; E. Rex Makin & Liverpool.



# Skytrain refund hopes dashed

By Peter Wilson-Smith  
Banking Correspondent

Laker Skytrain ticket holders who hoped to get their money back after the offer from Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, the Laker chief executive, to foot the bill of up to £700,000 may not receive anything for several years, it emerged yesterday.

Replying to criticism that he had not gone ahead with his offer to reimburse holders of Laker Airways tickets who booked in advance and are now unsecured creditors, Mr Rowland said in a statement: "Cheques are not being sent out against all claims, which would be several millions."

"The claims will be dealt with on a pro-rata basis after the liquidators have first considered them and paid such dividends as may be available."

However, experts involved in sorting out the remains of the Laker empire think this will take a long time.

Mr Christopher Morris, of Touche Ross, the liquidators for the Jersey registered company of which Skytrain ticket-holders are now unsecured creditors said: "I would say several years—two or three years, maybe longer."

The task of the liquidators is complicated by the fact that no one knows for sure how many people booked tickets in advance or how much is owed. Touche Ross believes the figure may be 20,000 to 30,000 and are advertising for claimants to come forward.

The main sufferers among travellers of the Laker collapse have been those who booked in advance on scheduled flights and some have complained that they received no answer when they wrote to Mr Rowland.

However, he said in his statement, that he had been inundated with letters since he made his offer on television and checking and sorting the claims was taking time. "We are date-stamping the individual claims as they arrive," he said.

Lombro is still having talks with Sir Freddie Laker on trying to set up a new airline but Mr Paul Spicer, a director, firmly denied reports that a prospectus had been circulated in the City seeking backing of £105m.

He would not comment on any details but said the alleged prospectus was an internal document which was now out of date. "We are still looking at the possibility of flying for profit," he said.



## Footsteps in the sand mark end of a dream

Over the past few days, Israeli squatters who dreamt of preventing—or at least delaying—the handover of the Sinai to Egypt by April 25 have been turned out by the Israeli Army with far less violence than had been feared. Their trailers destroyed, their makeshift huts burnt down, they have departed over the silent sand dunes. Yesterday hot-houses in the village of Talmi Yosef were dismantled in the second day of the race to salvage farming materials before the final evacuation (Moshe Brilliant writes).

The expected resistance from the "stop the withdrawal" militants did not materialize but the committee representing Sinai farmers said that it would block further salvage work because the Israeli Government was "procrastinating" in the payment of compensation. Businessmen in the Sinai town of Yamit also criticized the Government's handling of the compensation issue.

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## Union complains of 'Times' conjecture

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The Transport and General Workers' Union yesterday confirmed that it was involved in talks with leaders of small unions seeking to prevent reform of the TUC General Council.

But the TGWU threw a continuing veil of secrecy over its efforts to forestall the intention of right-wing union rivals aimed at winning permanent moderate leadership in the trade union movement.

In an open letter to *The Times*, Mr Mostyn Evans, general secretary of the union, complained of "conjecture" in the investigation into TGWU contacts with sympathetic union officials, though his criticism was not immediately supported by union leaders who have been involved in the "stop reform" exercise.

The TGWU national officer responsible for press liaison declined two days ago to go on the record about the Transport Workers' efforts—widely known in the Labour movement—to prevent automatic seats being for sale to unions with more than 100,000 members on the TUC General Council, and the open letter

from Mr Evans is reproduced below:

Sir, With reference to the article by your Labour Editor on the front page of *The Times* today, I fail to understand how Mr Routledge could have got the impression that the TGWU is even remotely contemplating a breakaway centre of the trade unions. There is not the slightest intention to set up any rival power base to the TUC.

Certainly we have been exchanging views with other trade unions about the decision of Congress to change the structure of the General Council, but these are not with any particular group committed to left, right or centre.

As a matter of fact, to use Mr Routledge's oft repeated term "some of these are on the right," some on the left and some in the middle are extremely concerned with the prospect of what is termed automaticity which is that certain unions would automatically have seats on the General Council.

## Oil chiefs tell of plea for lead-free petrol

Continued from page 1

that we recommended the introduction of unleaded petrol."

A question-and-answer section of the document asks: "Is lead-free petrol a practical proposition?" and answers: "Obviously it is or we would not have recommended it to Government."

The briefing takes care to distance the oil industry from the motor industry and the Government. It says the petrol-lead debate has been revived recently by CLEAR and adds: "We have no wish to be seen as an adversary of this campaign."

The briefing outlines CLEAR's objectives and says: "In general they do not sound unreasonable, as long as its supporters realize that in calling for the elimination of lead, they are in practice also calling for the elimination of high-octane petrol, with the consequent implications for the motor industry and for fuel conservation."

It says that the oil industry could start producing lead-free 2-star petrol, but most cars run on higher-octane fuel.

"If a decision was made that

all new cars from a certain date should be able to run on such fuel, the car industry would need to retrofit to produce new engines, motorists would use more fuel because the lower octane fuels would give fewer miles per gallon and the accumulated costs could affect our international competitiveness."

These costs might well be thought acceptable, but it is government and not the oil industry that is the proper authority to decide in the national interest whether they are worth paying."

The briefing notes that CLEAR has suggested adjusting petrol tax rates to encourage motorists to buy lead-free petrol and says: "This is worth considering. Since lead-free petrol will cost more to produce, some such tax adjustment might be a way of encouraging motorists to use it."

Mr Des Wilson, chairman of CLEAR, said last night that the briefing made it clear that the Government was chiefly worried about the motor industry's costs if Britain went lead-free and he called on it to "come clean" about the real problem.

## Frank Johnson in the Commons

## Mrs Short to the aid of the full-fat MPs

Mrs Renee Short, the left-wing Labour member for Wolverhampton, North East, yesterday demanded the overthrow of the British parliamentary system of electing MPs.

She asked the representative of the catering sub-committee to "encourage the provision of two-cholesterol meals in the House". Her outburst came only a few days after the prospective Labour candidate for Bradford North, Mr Patrick Wall, demanded that a future Labour government be prepared to overthrow the rest of our ancient institutions such as, presumably, Mr Michael Foot.

Mrs Short's remarks are bound to cause a tremendous row among the overweight, self-indulgent and contented MPs who make up the majority of both main parties. But there is likely to be some support for her among them Dr David Owen.

Mr Joe Dean (Leeds West, Lab), the representative of the catering sub-committee who answered Mrs Short's question, obviously had no enthusiasm for her line of cause, but said: "The power of the middle class health extremists who are out to take over the country, he thought it prudent to humour her."

Mr Dean reiterated his assurance that the matter would be looked into as soon as possible. He added: "The final outcome may have to be decided by the economics of the situation."

A principle which, if applied by Labour MPs to issues in general, would mean the end of the party, especially the left, seemed to be against Mrs Short's initiative—with its implied threat of muesli, and thin, uncreamy milk—was seen as a move to undermine Parliament by making MPs as miserable as the rest of us, bludgeoned as we are by pro-health propaganda.

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into the refreshment rooms at all hours. He had no objection to their being on the premises, but he thought they should stay in the corridors "rather than disturb our traditional ways".

Mr Dean pondered his reply. He is a ruddy-faced, Northern engineer. He just looks unliberalized. He agreed that Mr Clark had a point. "Member who sits with children might come," he added, "and I could see no end of trouble." In Mr Dean, *The Guardian* women's page will presumably be claiming another victim.

In Mr Short's eyes, Mr Dean had been saying all the wrong things. To satisfy her, he should have promised not just spouses in the smoking room, but creches for the offspring. Being in favour of watery milk and low-cholesterol food, she is found to be pro-creche. Though there is no logical connexion they always go together.

All this was probably a welcome diversion for the Labour Party yesterday. Its members were sitting in the shadow of the Bradford Wall, the tragic edifice that is the symbol of the division of their once-proud civilization. No one mentioned the subject in the chamber, but the Opposition raised the matter as a diversion—perhaps because the Opposition would raise virtually anything else as a diversion.

Mr Frank Dobson (Holborn and St Pancras South, Lab) raised with the Speaker the proposed appearance of President Reagan in Westminster Hall. He and the rest of the party, especially the left, seemed to be against. Was this because America was the world's biggest cholesterol-producing superpower? Hardly, for it is also the world's biggest jogging power.

The Speaker quietened Mr Dobson by saying that he knew nothing about the visit, but would look into it.

Another matter which would be looked into was whether Stanley Baldwin or Ramsay MacDonald should be the subject of the next statue in the lobby, according to Mr Francis Pym, the leader of the House, answering questions. It was the sort of subject to enrage Mr Wall and the Militant Tendency, not that they tend to be strong on bourgeois history. MacDonald, an enemy of the working class. Did he not bring in the high-cholesterol hamburger?

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's Events

#### Royal engagements

The Queen holds an investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11.

Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips attend Livery Banquet of the Worshipful Company of Carmen, Mansion House, London, 7.20.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends special performance of "Underneath the Archway", Prince of Wales Theatre, in aid of the Bud Flanagan Leukaemia Fund, 7.40.

#### Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester

attends concert of Polish popular music by the Commonwealth Philharmonic Orchestra, Albert Hall, 7.20.

#### New exhibitions

Paintings by William Conor, Armagh County Museum, The Mall East, Armagh, N Ireland, Mon to Sat 10 to 1 and 2 to 5; (from today until March 31).

Exhibitions in progress

Watercolours and oil paintings by David Cox, City Art Gallery, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until March 15).

Centenary Exhibition, Ipswich Museum and Gallery, High Street, Ipswich; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (until March 27).

Work by Edward Bawcutt, Central Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until April 3).

Exchanges by Dick Parry, Garden Gallery, Darlington; Mon to Fri 10 to 7.30, Sat 10 to 12 (until March 26).

Pennantists—pennants in 19th century art, Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5 (until March 27).

Work by Edward Bawcutt, Central Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Wolverhampton; Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (until April 3).

Carol Weight, York City Art Gallery, Exhibition Road, York; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (until April 4).

Talks, lectures

A History of Textile Trade Unions in the Bradford Area, by Tony Jowitt, Bradford Industrial Museum, Bradford, 7.30.

Birds of a Woodland Garden, by Mr S. Baylis-Smith, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill-on-Sea, 3.

Music

Concert by Lindsay String Quartet, University of Keele Chapel, Keele, 8.

Concert by Brandis Quartet of Berlin, Temple Newsam, Temple Newsam Road, Leeds, 7.30.

Organ concert by Pierre Gelin, Sheffield Cathedral, 8.

General

Daley's Book Display—books relating to Caribbean studies, English as a second language and South Asian studies, Bradford College, Trinity Building, Eastby Road, Bradford, 10.30 to 5.

### Ideal Home Exhibition

The Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition opens today at Earls Court. Show includes seven shows on home improvement, advice centres on home enlargement, finance, washing and health and beauty also a wide variety of household appliances, tropical plants and rare moths and butterflies. Play centre for children aged 2 to 10. Open 10.30 to 6.30 (closed 10.30 to 5.30 until April 3, Adults £2.50 (£2 after 5); children £1.50 after 5).

### The papers

The New York Times yesterday said: "Poland's bankruptcy is a fact, disguised only by accounting tricks."

Romania is not far behind and the Soviet Union itself is having cash flow problems and fears that its economy could be in a state of bankruptcy.

Commenting on the growing distance between West Germany and the US, the Frankfurt Allgemeine Zeitung asks if American partners will bring on a new form of isolationism: "We might be digging our own grave while the US withdraws to Fortress America", it says.

### Roads

Midlands and E Anglia: M5; Lane closures between Worcester and Sretham Junctions 7 and 8; A2: Roadworks at western end of Atherton by-pass; A14: Southbound lane closure on Huntingdon by-pass.

North: M6: Exits at junction 33 (Lancaster) closed; diversions; A18(T): Temporary signals at Hatfield, Yorkshire; A117: Temporary lights between Hatfield and Dunstun; N of Chester.

Scotland: A1: Temporary signals at Harelaw Bridge, S of Granton; A92: Roadworks between Glenelg Centre and Strathclyde regional boundary.

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures at Newport, junction 24 to 25; A420: Width restrictions at Lawrence Hill, Bristol; A4076: Width restrictions at Johnston between Havfordwest and M4076.

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### TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending February 28.

#### ITV

1 This Is Your Life, Thames (17.10m)

2 Coronation Street (Mon), Granada (16.40m)

3 Coronation Street (Wed), Granada (16.05m)

4 The Gaffer, Yorkshire (15.45m)

5 2-1 Yorkshire (14.90m)

6 Starburst, Central (14.40m)

7 Crossroads (Wed), Central (14.25m)

8 Crossroads (Thurs), Central (14.20m)

9 Family Fortunes, Central (13.90m)

10 Hart to Hart, ITV (13.85m)

#### BBC 1

1 Dallas (13.45m)

2 Jim'll Fix It (13.35m)

3 Shoestring (12.85m)

4 Top of the Pops (12.75m)

5 The Kenny Everett Television Show (12.50m)

6 Holiday (12.10m)

7 Question of Sport (11.95m)

8 Play for Today: Willie's Last Stand (11.70m)

9 The Les Dawson Show (11.40m)

10 The Dukes of Hazard (11.30m)

#### BBC 2

1 Pot Black '82 (10.30m)

2 Not The Nine O'Clock News (10.25m)

3 Mari Caine (9.65m)

4 One Man and his Dog (8.75m)

5 Nancy Astor (Wed & Sun) (8.70m)

6 Russell Harty (Tue) (8.60m)

7 The Flight of the Condor (8.65m)

8 Sunday Too Far Away (8.05m)

9 The Waltons (5.80m)

10 Gaddie (5.25m)

Broadcasters Audience Research Board

### The Pound

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